



Frontispiece Vol. 1.

O V I D's
METAMORPHOSES,

I N
F I F T E E N B O O K S.

Translated by the most Eminent Hands.

Adorned with SCULPTURES.

VOLUME *the* FIRST.

The F O U R T H E D I T I O N.

L O N D O N:

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M D C C L X X I I I.



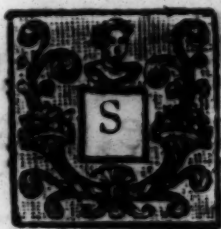


Dedication



TO HER
ROYAL HIGHNESS.

MADAM,



SINCE I am allowed
the Honour and
Privilege of so easy
Access to Your Royal High-

A 4 nefs,

DEDICATION.

ness, I dare say, I shall not be the worse received for bringing *Ovid* along with me. He comes from Banishment to the Fautrefs of Liberty; from the barbarous to the polite; and has this to recommend him, which never fails with a Clemency like Your's; he is unfortunate.

Your Royal Highness, who feels for every one, has lately been the mournful Occasion of a like Sensibility
in

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in many others. Scarce an Eye, that did not tell the Danger You were in : even Parties, tho' different in Principles, united at that Time in their Grief, and affectionate Concern, for an Event of so much Consequence to the Interest of Humanity and Virtue ; whilst Yourself was the only Person, then, unmoved.

It was remarkable, That She, who, with a Manner most engaging, taught the

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innocent Pleasures to appear more desirable, than the criminal; who was every Day the Life of some new agreeable Diversion, should behave Herself, upon that cruel Trial, with a Magnanimity so unshaken, that those who were Witnesses might have imagined, She scarce ever had done any thing, but study how to die.

It is the greatest Happiness can attend an Age under

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der a long Depravation of Morals, to be blest with Examples, where Virtue is set off by the Advantage of Birth. Such Qualifications, when united, do not only persuade an Imitation, but command it. Humane Nature is always more affected by what it sees, than what it hears of; and as those Ideas, which enter by the Eye, find the surest Passage to the Heart; so the more the Object, whatever

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it be, seems desirable to the one, the longer it continues in the other.

There are Perfections shining, that one must be the very worst of Mortals, or the very best, not to admire in all those, who possess them. To be blest with a Disposition to Charity, not confined by any other Limits, than the Modesty of those who ask it: to know, and be ready to excuse Faults; yet, so strict in Life,
as

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as not to want the like Indulgence; to have a Superiority of Genius capable of judging of the highest Affairs, and an Application so observant, as to penetrate into the most minute; to be easy to lay down Grandeur upon familiar Occasions, and discerning to take it up, when Dignity of Station requires; to know the politer Languages of the present Age, as a Native, and the greater Occurrences and Periods

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riods of the past, as an Historian, make up a Character, which is so obvious, that every one will know where to apply it, except the Person, whose it really is: and if in this Your Royal Highness be at a Loss, I think it is the only Thing within the Province of your Sex You are ignorant of.

I shall take up no more of Your Time in this Dedication; because, to do every Thing that may be most acceptable

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ceptable to You, shall always be the Endeavour of,

M A D A M,

Your ROYAL HIGHNESS's

most Humble,

and most Obedient Servant,

S. GARTH.

DEDICATION

Acceptable to You, shall al-
ways be the Endeavour of

For Your Illnesses

and Humors

OF THE



P R E F A C E.



THE Method I propose in writing this Preface, is to take Notice of some of the Beauties of the *Metamorphoses*, and also of the Faults and particular Affectations. After which I shall proceed to hint at some Rules for Translation in general; and shall give a short Account of the following Version..

I shall not pretend to impose my Opinion on others with the magisterial Authority of a Critic; but only take the Liberty of discovering my own Taste. I shall endeavour to show our Poet's Redundance of Wit, Justness of Comparisons, Elegance of Descriptions, and peculiar Delicacy in touching every Circumstance relating to the Passions and Affectations; and with the same Impartiality and Frankness, I shall confess the too frequent Puerili-

Puerilities of his luxuriant Fancy, and the too great Negligence of his sometimes unlaboured Versification.

I am not of an Opinion, too common to Translators, to think that one is under an Obligation to extol every thing he finds in the Author he undertakes: I am sure one is no more obliged to do so, than a Painter is to make every Face, that fits to him, handsome. 'Tis enough if he sets the best Features he finds in their full, and most advantageous Light. But if the Poet has private Deformities, though Good-breeding will not allow to expose him naked, yet surely there can be no Reason to recommend him as the most finished Model of Harmony and Proportion.

Whoever has this undistinguishing Complaisance, will not fail to vitiate the Taste of the Readers, and misguide many of them in their Judgment, where to approve, and where to censure.

It must be granted, that where there appears an infinite Variety of inimitable Excellencies, it would be too harsh, and disingenuous to be severe on such Faults, as have escaped rather through Want of Leisure, and Opportunity to correct, than through the erroneous Turn of a depraved
Judg-

Judgment. How sensible *Ovid* himself was of the Uncorrectness of the *Metamorphoses*, appears from these Lines prefixed before some of the Editions by the Care of his Commentators.

Orba parente suo quicunque Volumina tangis,

His saltem vestrà detur in urbe locus.

Quoque magis faveas; non sunt hæc edita ab Illo.

Sed quasi de domini funere raptæ sui

Quicquid in his igitur vitii rude carmen habebit,

Emendaturus, si licuisset, erat. Trist. El. vi.

Since therefore the Readers are not solemnly invited to an Entertainment, but come accidentally; they ought to be contented with what they find: and pray what have they to complain of, but too great Variety? Where, though some of the Dishes be not served in the exactest Order and Politeness, but hashed up in Haste; there are a great many accommodated to every particular Palate.

To like every thing, shows too little Delicacy; and to like nothing, too much Difficulty. So great is the Variety of this Poem, that the Reader, who is never pleased, will appear as monstrous, as he that is always so. Here are the Hurries of
Battles -

Battles for the Hero, tender Emotions of Soul for the Lover, a Search and Penetration into Nature for the Philosopher, Fluency of Numbers, and most expressive Figures for the Poet, Morals for the Serious, and Pleasantries for Admirers of Points of Wit.

'Tis certain a Poet is more to be suspected for saying too much, than too little. To add, is often hazardous; but to retrench, commonly judicious. If our Author, instead of saying all he could, had only said all he should; *Daphne* had done well to fly from the God of Wit, in order to crown his Poet: thus *Ovid* had been more honoured and adored in his Exile, than *Augustus* in his Triumphs.

I shall now attempt to give some Instances of the Happiness, and vast Extent of our Author's Imagination. I shall not proceed according to the Order of the Poem, but rather transcribe some Lines here and there, as my Reflection shall suggest.

*Nec circumfuso pendebat in aere tellus
Ponderibus librata suis—*

Thus was the State of Nature before the Creation: And here it is obvious, that *Ovid* had a discerning Notion of the
Gra-

P R E F A C E.

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Gravitation of Bodies. 'Tis now demonstrated, that every Part of Matter tends to every Part of Matter with a Force, which is always in a direct simple Proportion of the Quantity of the Matter, and an inverse duplicate Proportion of the Distance; which Tendency, or Gravitating, is constant and universal. This Power, whatever it be, acting always proportionably to the solid Content of Bodies, and never in any Proportion to their Superficies, cannot be explained by any material Impulse; for the Laws of Impulse are physically necessary: there can be no *αὐτεξέχαστον*, or arbitrary Principle, in meer Matter; its Parts cannot move, unless they be moved, and cannot do otherwise, when pressed upon by other Parts in Motion; and therefore 'tis evident from the following Lines, that *Ovid* strictly adhered to the Opinion of the most discerning Philosophers, who taught that all Things were formed by a wise and intelligent Mind.

*Jussit & extendi campos subsidere valles,
Fronde tegi sylvas——*

The *Fiat* of the Hebrew Law-giver is not more sublime, than the *Jussit* of the
Latin

Latin Poet, who goes on in the same elevated and philosophical Style.

*His super imposuit, liquidum & gravitate carentem
Æthera—*

Here the Author spreads a thin Veil of *Æther* over his infant Creation; and though his asserting the upper Region to be void of Gravitation, may not, in a mathematical Rigour, be true; yet 'tis found from the natural Enquiries made since, and especially from the learned Dr. *Hally's* Discourse on the *Barometer*, that if, on the Surface of the Earth, an Inch of Quicksilver in the Tube be equal to a Cylinder of Air of 300 Feet, it will be at a Mile's Height equal to a Cylinder of Air of 2700000: and therefore the Air at so great a Distance from the Earth, must be rarified to so great a Degree, that the Space it fills must bear a very small Proportion to that which is entirely void of Matter.

I think we may be confident, from what already appears, as well as from what our Author has writ on the *Roman Feasts*, that he could not be totally ignorant of Astronomy. Some of the Criticks would insinuate, from the following Lines, that he
mistook

P R E F A C E. vii

mistook the annual Motion of the Sun for the Diurnal.

Sectus in obliquum———

MET. B. 2.

Though the Sun be always in one or other of the Signs of the *Zodiack*, and never goes by either Motion more Northward, or Southward, than is here described ; yet *Phaeton* being designed to drive the Chariot but one Day, ought to have been directed in the *Æquator*, or a Circle parallel to it, and not round the other Oblique one of the *Ecliptick* : a Degree of which, and that by a Motion contrary to the Diurnal, he was obliged to go in that Length of Time.

I am inclined to think that *Ovid* had so great an Attention to poetical Embellishments, that he voluntarily declined a strict Observance of any astronomical System. For though that Science was far from being neglected in former Ages, yet the Progress which was made in it, by no Means equalled that of our present Time.

Lucretius, though in other Things most penetrating, describes the Sun scarce bigger, than he appears to the Eye.

Nec

*Nec nimio solis major rota, nec minor ardor
Esse potest, nostris quam sensibus esse videtur.*

And *Homer*, imagining the Seats of the Gods above the fixed Stars, represents the falling of *Vulcan* from thence to the Isle of *Lemnos*, to continue during a whole Day.

Πᾶν δ' ἡμαρ φερόμεν, ἅμα δ' ἡελίῳ καταδύνῃ·
Κάππεσον ἐν Δήμῳ————

The *Greek* Poet aims here to give a surprising Idea of the Height of the celestial Mansions: but if the Computation of a modern Astronomer be true, they are at so much a greater Distance, that *Vulcan* would have been more Years in falling, than he was Minutes.

But lest I should exceed the usual Length of a Preface, I shall now give some Instances of the Propriety of our Author's Similies and Epithets, the Perspicuity of his Allegories, the instructive Excellence of the Morals, the peculiar happy Turn of his Fancy; and shall begin with the Elegance of his Descriptions.

————*Madidis*

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———*Madidis Notus evolat alis,
Terribilem piceâ tectus caligine vultum.
Barba gravis nimbis, canis fluit unda capillis,
Fronte sedent nebulae, rorant pennaeque, sinusque*

*Sternuntur segetes, & deplorata coloni
Vota jacent, longique labor perit irritus anni.*

Met. B. 1.

These Lines introduce those of the Deluge, which are also very poetical, and worthy to be compared with the next, concerning the Golden Age.

———*Sine militis usu
Mollia securæ peragebant otia gentes.
Ipsa quoque immunis rastrisque intacta, nec ullis
Saucia vomeribus, per se dabat omnia tellus.
Contentique cibus, nullo cogente, creatis,
Arbutos foetus, montanaque fraga legebant,
Et quæ deciderant patulâ Jovis arbore glandes.
Ver erat æternum, placidique tepentibus auris
Mulcebant Zephyri natos sine femine flores.*

Virgil has also touched upon the same Subject in the End of the Second Georgick.

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B

Aureus

P R E F A C E.

*Aureus hanc vitam, in terris Saturnus agebat,
Nec dum etiam audierunt inflari classica, nec dum
Impositos duris crepitare incudibus enses.*

And again,

Primus ab ætherio venit Saturnus Olympo

*Aurea, quæ perhibent, illo sub rege fuerunt
Sæcula : sic placidâ populos in pace regebat.*

Æn. B. 8. l. 319.

Some of the Lines, a little foreign to the present Subject, are omitted ; but I shall make the most admirable Author amends by transcribing at length his next Description. 'Tis of a Stag, which gave the first Occasion to the War betwixt the *Trojans* and the *Rutulians* : I chuse this, because my Design is to have these two great Poets seen together, where the Subject happens to be almost the same, though the Nature of the Poems be very different.

*Cervus erat formâ præstanti, & cornibus ingens,
Tyrrheidæ pueri, quem matris ab ubere raptum
Nutribant, Tyrrheusque pater, cui regia parent
Armenta, & latè custodia credita campi.*

Assuetum

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*Affuetum imperiis soror omni Sylvia curâ
Mollibus intexens ornabat cornua fertis :
Pestebatque ferum, puroque in fonte lavabat.
Ille manûm patiens, mensæque assuetus herili
Errabat sylvis——*

Æn. B. 7. l. 483.

The Image which Ovid gives of the favourite Stag slain accidentally by Cyparissus, seems not of less Dignity.

*Ingens cervus erat, latèque patentibus altas
Ipse suo capiti præbebat cornibus umbras :
Cornua fulgebant auro, demissaque in armos
Pendebant tereti gemmata monilia collo.
Bulla super frontem parvis argentea loris
Vincta movebatur : parilique ex ære nitebant
Auribus in geminis circum cava tempora baccæ.
Isque metu vacuus, naturalique pavore
Deposito celebrare domos, mulcendaque colla
Quamlibet ignotis manibus præbere solebat.*

— — — — —
*Gratus erat Cyparisse tibi. Tu pabula cervum
Ad nova, tu liquidi ducebas fontis ad undam.
Tu modo texebas varios per cornua flores :
Nunc, eques in tergo residens, huc latus & illuc
Mollia purpureis frænabas ora capistris.*

In the following Lines, Ovid describes the watery Court of the River Peneus, which the Reader may compare with Virgil's subterranean Grot of Cyrene the Naiad, Mother to Aristæus.

*Est nemus Hæmonia, prærupta quod undique claudit
Sylvæ : vocant Tempe ; per quæ Peneus ab imo
Effusus Pindo spumosis volvitur undis :
Dejectuque gravi tenues agitantia fumos
Nubila conducit, summasque aspergine sylvas
Impluit ; & sonitu plus quam vicina fatigat.
Hæc domus, hæc sedes, hæc sunt penetralia magni
Amnis : in hoc residens factò de cautibus antro.
Undis jura dabat, Nymphisque colentibus undas.
Conveniunt illuc popularia flumina primum ;
Nescia gratentur, consolenturvè parentem.
Populifer Spercheos, & irrequietus Enipeus,
Apidanusque senex, lenisque Amphrysos, & Æas.
Moxque amnes alii, qui, quâ tulit impetus illos,
In mare deducunt fessas erroribus undas.*

Met. B. 1.

*Tristis Aristæus Penei genitoris ad undam
Stat lacrymans —————*

*— — — — —
Jamque domum mirans genetricis, & humidæ regna,
Speluncisque lacus clausos, lucosque sonantes,*

Ibat ;

*Ibat ; & ingenti motu stupefactus aquarum,
Omnia sub magnâ labentia flumina terrâ
Spectabat diversa locis, Phasimque, Lycumque,
Et caput, unde altus primum se erumpit Enipeus,
Unde pater Tiberinus, & unde Aniena fluente,
Et gemina auratus taurino cornua vultu
Eridanus, quò non alius per pinguia cubra
In mare purpureum violentior influit amnis.*

G. B. 4.

The Divine Poet goes on in Pomp of Numbers, and easy Magnificence of Words, 'till he introduces the Story of *Orpheus* and *Eurydice* ; in the Narration of which, he is as much superior to *Ovid*, as the Reeds of his own *Mantuan* Shepherds are less Musical, than the Lyre of *Orpheus*.

That I may not be too long on this Article, I shall recommend to the Reader, *Ovid's* admirable Description of Sleep,

— *Est prope Cimmerios* — Met. B. 11.

That of Hunger,

— *Est locus extremis Scythia* — B. 8.

That of the Plague,

— *Dira lues* — B. 7.

B 3

That

That of Fame,

—— *Orbe locus medio est* —— B. 12.

Virgil has also touched on the two last; in the one he had *Lucretius* in View; in the other *Homer*: and I think it will not be to the Disadvantage of our Author to appear at the same Time.

There are many other Descriptions scattered in the *Metamorphoses*, which for just Expression of Nature, and majestick Modulation of Words, are only inferior to those already transcribed, as they are shorter; which makes the Objection, that his Diction is commonly loitering into Prose, a great deal too severe.

The *Metamorphoses* must be considered, as is observed before, very uncorrect; and *Virgil's* Works as finished: though his own Modesty would not allow the *Aeneids* to be so. It seems it was harder for him to please himself than his Readers. His Judgment was certainly great, nor was his Vivacity of Imagination less; for the first without the last is too heavy, and like a Dress without Fancy; and the last without the first is too gay, and but all Trimming.

Our Author's Similitudes are next to be considered, which are always remarkably short,

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short, and convey some pleasing Idea to the Imagination. 'Tis in this Branch of the Poem that he has discovered as just a Judgment as any of the Classicks whatever. Poets, to give a Loose to a warm Fancy, are generally too apt, not only to expatiate in their Similies, but introduce them too frequently; by doing the first, they detain the Attention too long from the principal Narration; and by the latter, they make too frequent Breaches in the Unity of the Poem.

These two Errors *Ovid* has most discerningly avoided. How short, and significant are generally his Comparisons! he fails not, in these, to keep a stiff Rein on a high-mettled *Pegasus*; and takes care not to surfeit here, as he had done on other Heads, by an erroneous Abundance.

His Similies are thicker sown by much in the Fable of *Salmacis* and *Hermaphroditus*, than in any other Book, but always short.

The Nymph clasps the Youth close to her Breast, and both sensibly grow one.

—*Velut si quis conducto cortice ramos
Crescendo jungi, pariterque adolescere cernat.*

Met. B. 4.

B 4

Again,

Again, as *Atalanta* reddens in the Race
with *Hippomenes*.

Inque puellari corpus candore ruborem

Traxerat : haud aliter quam cum super atria velum

Candidâ purpureum simulatas inficit umbras.

Met. B. 10.

Philomela's Tongue seemed to move after
it was cut out by *Tereus*.

Utque salire solet mutilatæ cauda colubræ,

Palpitat———

Met. B. 6.

Cadmus sows the Dragon's Teeth, and the
Sons of the Earth rise gradually.

Inde, fide majus, glebæ cepere moveri ;

Primaque de sulcis acies apparuit hastæ ;

Tegmina mox capitum picto nutantia cono,

Mox humeri, pectusque——

Sic ubi tolluntur festis aulae theatri

Surgere signa solent, primumque ostendere vultum,

Cætera paulatim, placidoque educta tenore

Tota patent, imoque pedes in margine ponunt.

Met. B. 3.

The Objection to *Ovid*, that he never
knows when to give over, is too manifest.
Though he frequently expatiates on the same
Thought, in different Words ; yet in his
Similies,

P R E F A C E. xvii

Similies, that Exuberance is avoided. There is in them all a Simplicity, and a Confinement to the present Object; always a Fecundity of Fancy, but rarely an Intemperance: nor do I remember he has erred above once by an ill-judged Superfluity. After he has described the Labyrinth built by *Dædalus*, he compares it thus,

*Non secus ac liquidus Phrygiis Mæandros in arvis
Ludit, & ambiguo lapsu refluitque, fluitque;
Et nunc ad fontes, nunc ad mare versus apertum
Incertas exercet aquas———* Met. B. 8.

He should have ended at the Close of the second Line, as *Virgil* should have done at the End of the fourth in his noble Simile, where *Dido* proceeds to the Temple with her Court about her.

*Qualis in Eurotæ ripis, aut per juga Cynthi
Exercet Diana choros, quam mille secutæ
Hinc, atque hinc glomerantur Oreædes, illa pharetram
Fert humero, gradiensque deas supereminet omnes:
Lætonæ tacitum pertendant gaudia pectus.*
Æn. B. 4.

I see no Reason for the last Line: Tho' the Poet be justly celebrated for a most
B 5
consum-

consummate Judgment, yet by an Endeavour to imitate *Homer's* Similies, he is not only very long, but by introducing several Circumstances, he fails of an applicable Relation betwixt the principal Subject and his new Ideas. He sometimes thinks fit to work into the Piece some differing Embroidery, which, though very rich, yet makes at best but glorious Patch-work. I really believe his excellent Poem had not been the less so, if, in this Article, he had thought fit to have walked on in his own regular and majestick Grace, rather than have been hurried forward through broken Bye-ways by his blind Guide.

I shall transcribe one of his Similies, which is not culled out, but exactly of the same Texture with all the rest in the four last Books of the *Æneids*.

Turnus leaps in Fury from his Chariot.

*Ac veluti montis saxum de vertice præceps
Cum ruit avulsum vento, seu turbidus imber
Proluit, aut annis solvit sublapsa vetustas,
Fertur in abruptum magno mons improbus æstu,
Exultatque solo, sylvas, armenta, virosque
Involvunt secum* ————— *Æn. B. 12. l. 684.*

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It does not seem to be at all material, whether the Rock was blown, or washed down by Wind or Rain, or undermined by Time.

But to return to *Ovid*; the Reader may take Notice how unforced his Compliments, and how natural his Transitions generally are. With how much Ease does he slide into some new Circumstance, without any Violation of the Unity of the Story. The Texture is so artful, that it may be compared to the Work of his own *Arachne*, where the Shade dies so gradually, and the Light revives so imperceptibly, that it is hard to tell where the one ceases, and the other begins.

When he is going off from the Story of *Apollo* and *Daphne*; how happily does he introduce a Compliment to the *Roman Conquerors*.

——— *At conjux quoniam mea non potes esse,*
Arbor eris certè———

Tu Ducibus Latiis aderis, cum læta triumphum

Vox canet, & longæ visent Capitolia pompæ.

Postibus Augustis eadem fidiissima custos

Ante fores stabis; mediamque tuebere quercum.

Met. B. i.

He compliments *Augustus* upon the Assassination of *Julius*; and, by way of Simile, takes the Opportunity from the Horror that the Barbarity of *Lycaon* gave.

—*Sic cum manus impia sevit*
Sanguine Casareo Romanum extinguere nomen, &c.

Julius is deify'd, and looks down on his adopted Son.

—*Natique videns benefacta, fatetur*
Esse suis majora, & vinci gaudet ab illo.

Met. B. 15.

And immediately follows,

Hic sua præferri quamquam vetat acta paternis;
Libera fama tamen, nullisque obnoxia jussis
Invitum præfert——

The Author, in the two first Lines shows the affectionate Condescension of the Father; in the three last, the pious Gratitude of the Son.

The Compliments to *Augustus* are very frequent in the last Book of the *Metamorphoses*; as those to the same Emperor are in the
the

the *Georgicks* of *Virgil*, which also strike the Imagination by their agreeable Flattery.

*Hæc super arborum cultu, pecorumque canebam,
Et super arboribus ; Cæsar dum magnus ad altum
Fulminat Euphratem bello, victorque volentes
Per populos dat jura, viamque affœtat Olympo.*

G. 1.

Again on *Julius*,

*Imperium Oceano, famam qui terminet astris
Julius ———*

Æn. B. 1.

The Compliments have a great Sublimity, and are worthy of the Grandeur of the Heroes, and the Wit of the Poet.

Ovid as much deserves Praise for saying a great deal in a little, as Censure for saying a little in a great deal. None of the *Classick* Poets had the Talent of expressing himself with more Force, and Perspicuity.

Phaeton desires some Pledge of his Father's Tenderneſs, and asks to be trusted with his Chariot. He answers,

Pignora certa petis ; do pignora certa timendo.

Met. B. 2.

How.

However, the latter complies with his Importunity ; the Consequence is fatal, the World is set on Fire, even the Rivers feel the Force of the Conflagration. The *Tagus* boils,

——— *Fluit ignibus aurum.*

The Nile retreats,

Oculuitque caput, quod adhuc latet———

Zanthus is parched up,

Arsurusque iterum Zanthus———

The Poet's Fancy is here full of Energy, as well as in the following Lines. *Apollo* courts *Daphne*, and promises himself Success, but is disappointed.

Quodque cupit, sperat ; suaque illum Oracula fallunt.

And again,

The River *Achelous* combats *Hercules*, and assumes several Shapes in vain, then puts on at last that of a Snake ; the Heroe smiles in Contempt.

Cunarum labor est angues superare mearum.

Ovid

P R E F A C E. xxiii

Ovid never excels himself so much as when he takes occasion to touch upon the Passion of Love; all Hearts are in a Manner sensible of the same Emotions; and like Instruments tuned Unisons, if a String of any one of them be struck, the rest by consent vibrate.

Procris is jealous of *Cephalus*; she endeavours to be confirmed in her Fears, but hopes the contrary,

—— *Speratque miserrima falli.*

The next is not less natural,

—— *Sed cuncta timemus amantes.*

Biblis is in love with *Caunus*. The Struggle is betwixt her unlawful Flame and her Honour.

She's all Confusion at the Thoughts of discovering her Passion—

—— *miserere fatentis amorem.*

She attempts to write,

*Incipit & dubitat : scribit, damnatque tabellas,
Et notat, & dolet : mutat, culpatque, probatque.*

In

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In the End, Inclination, as it does always, gets the better of Discretion.

This last Fable shews how touchingly the Poet argues in Love Affairs, as well as those of *Medea* and *Scylla*. The two last are left by their Heroes, and their Reflections are very natural and affecting. *Ovid* seemed here to have had *Virgil's* Passion of *Dido* in his Eye, but with this Difference; the one had conversed much with Ladies, and knew they loved to talk a great deal: the other consider'd no less, what was natural for them to say, than what became them to say.

Virgil has, through the whole Management of this Rencounter, discovered a most finished Judgment. *Aeneas*, like other Men, likes for Convenience, and leaves for greater. *Dido*, like other Ladies, resents the Neglect, enumerates the Obligations the Lover is under, upbraids him with Ingratitude, threatens him with Revenge, then by and by submits, begs for Compassion, and has Recourse to Tears.

It appears from this Piece, that *Virgil* was a discerning Master in the Passion of Love: and they that consider the Spirit and

and Turn of that inimitable Line——
Qui Bavium non odit——cannot doubt but
 he had an equal Talent for Satyr.

Nor does the Genius of *Ovid* more exert
 on the Subject of Love, than on all others.
 In the Contention of *Ajax*, *Ulysses's* Elocu-
 tion is most nervous and persuading. Where
 he endeavours to dissuade Mankind from
 indulging carnivorous Appetites in his Pytha-
 gorean Philosophy, how emphatical is his
 Reasoning !

*Quid meruere boves, animal sine fraude, dolisque,
 Innocuum, simplex, natum tolerare labores ?
 Immemor est demum, nec frugum munere dignus
 Qui potuit curvi dempto modo pondere aratri
 Ruricolam mactare suum——* Met. B. 15.

I think *Agricolam* had been stronger, but the
 Authority of Manuscripts does not warrant
 that Emendation.

Through the whole Texture of this Work,
Ovid discovers the highest Humanity, and a
 most exceeding good Nature. The Virtuous
 in Distress are always his Concern ; and his
 Wit contrives to give them an Immortality
 with himself.

He

He seems to have taken the most Pains in the first and second Book of the *Metamorphoses*, though the thirteenth abounds with Sentiments most moving, and with calamitous Incidents, introduced with great Art. The Poet had here in View, the Tragedy of *Hecuba* in *Euripides*; and it is a Wonder it has never been attempted in our own Tongue. The House of *Priam* is destroyed, his royal Daughter a Sacrifice to the *Manes* of him that occasioned it. She is forced from the Arms of her unhappy Friends, and hurried to the Altar, where she behaves herself with Decency becoming her Sex, and a Magnanimity equal to her Blood, and so very affecting, that even the Priest wept.

—*Ipse etiam flens, invitufque sacerdos, &c.*

She shews no Concern at approaching Death, but on the Account of her old, unfortunate Mother.

*Mors tantum vellem matrem mea fallere possit.
Mater obest, minuitque necis mea gaudia; quamvis
Non mea mors illi: verum sua vita gemenda est.*

Then

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Then begs her Body may be delivered to
her without Ransom,

———*Genetrici corpus inemptum*
Reddite; néve, auro redimat jus triste sepulchri,
Sed lacrymis: tunc, cum poterat, redimebat & auro.

The unhappy Queen laments, she is
not able to give her Daughter royal Bu-
rial,

Non hæc est fortuna domûs.

Then takes the Body in her decrepid
Arms, and halts to the Sea to wash off the
Blood,

———*Ad littus passu processit anili*
Albentes laniata comas.———

The animated Thoughts, and lively
Images, of this Poem, are numerous.
None ever painted more to the Life,
than our Author, though several Gro-
tesque Figures are now and then seen in
the same Groupe. The most plentiful Sea-
son, that gives Birth to the finest Flowers,
produces also the rankest Weeds. *Ovid*
has shewn in one Line, the brightest Fan-
cy

cy sometimes ; and in the next, the poorest Affectation.

Venus makes Court to Adonis,

——— *Et ecce !*

Opportuna suâ blanditur Populus umbrâ ;

Et requievit humo ; pressitque & gramen & ipsum.

Met. B. 10. l. 556.

Phæbus requests Phaeton to desist from his Request.

——— *Consiliis, non curribus utere nostris.*

Cæneus in the Battle of the Centaurs wounds Latreus in several Places.

——— *Vulnusque in vulnere fecit.*

These are some of our Poet's Boyisms. There is another Affectation, called by *Quintilian* *Ὠξύμωρον*, or a witty Folly, which would not have appeared quite so trifling, had it been less frequent.

Medea persuades the Daughters of *Pelias* to kill their Father, in order to have his Youth renewed. She, that loves him best, gives the first Wound,

Et,

Et, ne sit scelerata, facit scelus.

Met. B. 7.

Althea is enraged at her Son *Meleager*, and to do Justice to the *Manes* of his Brothers, destroys him,

Impietate pia est——

Envy enters *Athens*, and beholds the flourishing Condition of the City,

Vixque tenet lacrymas, quia nil lacrymabile cernit.

Ovid was much too fond of such Wit-ticisms, which are more to be wondered at, because they were not the Fashion of that Age, as Puns and Quibbles are of this. *Virgil*, as I remember, is not found trifling in this Manner above once or twice.

Deucalion vacuum lapides jactavit in orbem,

Unde homines nati, durum genus. G. B. 1. l. 63.

Juno is in Indignation at *Aeneas* upon his Arrival in *Italy*.

Num capti potuere capi? num incensa cremavit

Troja viros?——

Æn. 7. l. 295.

The

The Poet is so far from affecting this Sort of Wit, that he rarely ventures on so spirited a Turn of Fancy, as in these following Instances.

Juno upbraids *Venus* and *Cupid*, ironically, that two Deities could be able to get the better of one weak Woman.

——— *Memorable nomen,*

Una dolo Divûm, si femina victa duorum est.

Æn. B. 4. l. 95.

Euryalus, going upon an Enterprize, expresses his Concern for his surviving Mother, if he should fall, and recommends her to the Care of *Ascanius*, who answers,

*Namque erit ista mihi genetrix, nomenque Creusæ
Solum defuerit.*

Venus is importunate in her Solicitations to *Vulcan*, to make Armour for her Son: he answers,

——— *Abstiste precando*

Viribus in dubitare tuis——

Æn. B. 7.

At the first kindling of *Dido's* Passion, he has this most natural Thought,

Illum

— *Illum absens absentem auditque, viditque.*

But to return to *Ovid*; though I cannot vindicate him for his Points, I shall endeavour to mollify his Criticks, when they give him no Quarter for his Diction, and attack him so inflexibly for ending his Lines with Monosyllables, as—*si quis*—*si non*, &c. and as I think he cannot be excus'd more advantageously, than by affirming, that where he has done it once, *Virgil* has twenty Times.

— — — — — <i>Et cum</i>	G. 1.
— — — — — <i>si quis</i>	G. 2.
— — — — — <i>nec dum</i>	G. 2.
— — — — — <i>si quam</i>	Æn. 1.
— — — — — <i>si quis</i>	Æn. 7.
— — — — — <i>jam bos</i>	Æn. 12.
— — — — — <i>nunc nunc</i> — — — — — <i>Et.</i>	

There are a great many Endings of Lines in this Manner, and more indeed than seems consistent with the Majesty of Heroick Verse. When Lines are designed to be *sermoni propriiores*, this Liberty may be allowable, but not so when the Subject requires more sonorous Numbers. *Virgil* seems to endeavour to keep up his
Versi-

Verfification to an harmonious Dignity ; and therefore, when fit Words do not offer with some Ease, he will rather break off in an Hemistick, than that the Line should be lazy and languid. He well knew, how essential it was in Poetry, to flatter the Ear ; and at the same Time was sensible, that this Organ grows tired by a constant Attention to the same Harmony ; and therefore he endeavoured now and then to relieve it by a Cadence of Pauses, and a Variation of Measures.

Amphion Dircaus in Aëtao Aracyntho.

Ecl. 2.

This Line seems not tuneful at the first Hearing ; but by Repetition, it reconciles itself, and has the same Effect with some Compositions of Musick, which are at the first Performance tiresome, and afterward entertaining.

The Commentators and Criticks are of Opinion, that whenever *Virgil* is less musical, it is where he endeavours at an Agreement of the Sound with the Sense, as,

———*Procumbit bumi bos.*

It would shew as much Singularity to deny this, as it does a fanciful Facility to

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the Grammarians, and groundless in itself ; but though it were true, I dare be confident it is full as just upon *Virgil*.

—*Curru subungere Tigres*, Ecl. 5. l. 29.

for *Currui*, according to the Grammarians.

Often Adjectives for Adverbs ; and the contrary.

G. 1. — *Pinguia culta* ; an Adjective for a Substantive.

— *Denso distinguere pingui* ; the same.

Æn. 11. l. 69 — *Seu languentis Hyacinthi* ; first Foot of the Dactyl short.

Æn. 4. — *Tulerunt fastidia menses* ; the Penultima of the Verb short.

Obstupui steteruntque comæ — the same.

So *Lucretius*, *prodiderunt*, *reciderunt*, &c.

G. 1. l. 283. — *Pampinea gravidus autumnus* ; an Iambick for a Spondee.

Fluviorum rex Eridanus composque per omnes ; an Anapest for a Dactyl or a Spondee.

Æn. 10. l. 29. *Nec Clytio genitore minor nec fratre Mnestheo* ; a Trochee, unless the
two

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two Consonants *MN* of the following Word be allow'd.

G. 1. l. 456. *Fervere, non illâ quisquam*——

The Penultima commonly short with *Virgil*, so *fulgere stridere, &c.*

G. 1. l. 456.—*Sine me furere ante furorem* ;
a Græcism.

Æn. 12. l. 680.—*Imponere Pelio Ossam* ; a
Græcism, where there is no Elision, but
the long Vowel before another made short.

The Learned and Reverend Dr. *Clark* has observed (as he tells me) that though there be several short Vowels made long in *Homer*, yet there is no Instance on the contrary, of any long Vowel (such as the first Syllable of *τιμή, ψυχή, νίκη*, and the like) ever made short, where no Vowel follows. Which shows that there is no such Thing as a *Poetica licentia*, properly so called.

Certainly nobody can imagine but these two celebrated Authors understood their own Tongue, better than the scrupulous Grammarians of After-ages, who are too dogmatical, and self-sufficient, when they presume to censure either of them for not attending strictly enough to Syntax and the Measure of

Verse. The *Latin* Tongue is a dead Language, and none can decide with Confidence on the Harmony or Dissonance of the Numbers of these Times, unless they were thoroughly acquainted with their Pauses, and Cadence. They may indeed pronounce with much more Assurance on their Diction; and distinguish where they have been negligent, and where more finished. There are certainly many Lines in *Ovid*, where he has been downright lazy, and where he might have avoided the Appearance of being obviously so, by a very little Application. In recording the Succession of the *Alban* Kings thus,

*Epitus ex illo est, post hunc Capetusque, Capysque,
Sed Capys ante fuit —*

There are also several Lines in *Virgil*, which are not altogether tunable to a modern Ear, and which appear unfinished.

*Scilicet omnibus est labor impendendus, & omnes
Cogendæ in sulcum —* G. 2. l. 61.

*Præsertim si tempestas a vertice sylvis
Incubuit —* G. 2. l. 310.

*Quasve referre parem? sed nunc, est omnia quando
Iste animus supra —* Æn. 11. l. 509.

Ista

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*Ista quidem quia nota mihi tua, magne, voluntas,
Jupiter ——— Æn. 12. l. 108.*

But the Sun has its Spots ; and if amongst
Thousands of inimitable Lines, there should
be some found of an unequal Dignity with
the rest, nothing can be said for their Vin-
dication more, than, if they be Faults, they
are the Faults of *Virgil*.

As I ought to be on this Occasion an Advocate for *Ovid*, whom I think is too much run down at present by the critical Spirit of this Nation; I dare say, I cannot be more effectually so, than by comparing him in many Places with his admired Contemporary *Virgil*; and though the last certainly deserves the Palm, I shall make use of *Ovid's* own Lines, in the Trial of Strength between *Achelous* and *Hercules*, to show how much he is honoured by the Contention.

—Non tam

Turpe fuit vinci, quam contendisse decorum.

Met. B. 9.

I shall finish my Remarks on our Author, by taking Notice of the Justness, and Perspicuity of his Allegories; which are either physical, or natural; moral, or historical.

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Of the first Kind is the Fable of *Apollo* and *Python*; in the Explanation of this all the *Mythologists* agree; Exhalations and Mists, being the constant Effects of Inundations, are here dissipated by the Rays of the Sun.

Of the second Kind, are *Actæon* torn to Pieces by his own Pack of Dogs, and *Eri-sichthon* starved by the Disease of Hunger. These two Allegories seem to signify, that Extravagance and Luxury end in Want.

Of the third, is the Story of the Rape of *Europa*. History says, she was Daughter to *Agenor*, and carried by the *Candians* in a Galley, bearing a Bull in the Stern, in order to be married to one of their Kings named *Jupiter*.

This Explanation gives an Occasion for a Digression which is not altogether foreign to the present Purpose, because it will be of Use to justify *Ovid* on some other Occasions, where he is censured for being too free with the Characters of the Gods. I was once representing the *Metamorphoses*, as an excellent System of Morality; but an illustrious Lady, whose least Advantage above her Sex, is that of being one of the greatest Princesses in *Europe*, objected, that the

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the loose and immodest Sallies of *Jupiter* did by no means confirm my Assertion.

One must consider, that what appeared an Absurdity in *Ovid*, is not so much his own Fault, as that of the Times before him. The Characters of the Gods of the old herœick Age represented them unjust in their Actions ; mutable in their Designs ; partial in their Favours ; ignorant of Events ; scurrilous in their Language. Some of the superior Hierarchy treating one another with injurious Brutalities, and are often guilty of such Indecencies and Mis-behaviour as the lowest of Mortals would blush to own. *Juno* calls *Diana*, the Goddess of Chastity, κύον αἰδοῦς, Brazen-fac'd Bitch ; Hom. Il. B. 21. l. 481. *Jupiter* insults his Daughter, the Goddess of Wisdom, for her Rashness and Folly ; bids *Iris* tell her, he'll maul her Coach-horses for her, like a surly Bitch as she is ; αἰνολάτῃ κύον ; Il. B. 8. from l. 400. to l. 425. then threatens in another Place to beat his Wife, that divine Vixen, the immortal Partner of the Empyrean Throne, καὶ Σε πλεγγῆσιν ἰμάσσω. Il. B. 15. l. 17.

The Commentators may endeavour to hide those Absurdities under the Veil of Allegories ; but the Reader that considers the whole

Texture of the *Iliad*, will find, that the Author's Meaning, and their Interpretation, are often as unlike, as the imaginary Heroes of his Time are to the real ones of ours.

Allegories should be obvious, and not like Meteors in the Air, which represent a different Figure to every different Eye. Now they are Armies of Soldiers; now Flocks of Sheep; and by and by nothing.

Perhaps the Criticks of a more exalted Taste may discover such Beauties in the ancient Poetry, as may escape the Comprehension of us Pigmies of a more limited Genius. They may be able to fathom the Divine Sense of the Pagan Theology; whilst we aim at no more than to judge of a little Common Sense.

It is, and ever will be, a Rule to a great many to applaud and condemn with the general Vogue, though never so ill grounded. The most are afraid of being particular; and rather than strive against the Stream, are proud of being in the wrong with the many, rather than desirous of being in the right with the few: and though they be convinced of the Reasonableness of dissenting from the common Cry, yet out of a
poor

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poor Fear of Censure, they contribute to establish it, and thus become an Authority against others, who, in reality are but of their own Opinion.

Ovid was so far from paying a blind Deference to the venerable Name of his *Greecian* Predecessor, in the Character of his Gods ; that when *Jupiter* punishes *Andromeda* for the Crimes of her Mother, he calls him *injustus Ammon*, Met. B. 4. and takes commonly an honourable Care of the Decorum of the Godhead, when their Actions are consistent with the Divinity of their Character. His Allegories include some religious or instructive Moral, wrapped up in a peculiar Perspicuity. The Fable of *Proserpina*, being sometimes in Hell, and sometimes with *Ceres* her Mother, can scarce mean any thing else than the sowing and coming up of Corn. The various Dresses that *Vertumnus*, the God of Seasons, puts on in his Courtship of *Pomona* the Garden Goddess, seem plainly to express the different and most proper Times for digging, planting, pruning, and gathering the Increase. I shall be shorter on this Head, because our Countryman Mr. *Sands* has, by a laborious Search amongst the Mythologists, been very full. He has annexed his Explanations to

the End of each Book, which deserve to be recommended to those that are curious in this figurative Learning.

The Reader cannot fail of observing, how many excellent Lessons of Morality *Ovid* has given us in the Course of his Fables.

The Story of *Deucalion* and *Pyrrha* teaches that Piety and Innocence cannot miss of the divine Protection, and that the only Loss irreparable is that of our Probity and Justice.

That of *Phaeton* ; how the too great Tenderness of the Parent proves a Cruelty to the Child ; and that he, who would climb to the Seat of *Jupiter*, generally meets with his Bolt by the Way.

The Tale of *Baucis* and *Philemon* is most inimitably told. He omits not the minutest Circumstance of a Cottage Life ; and is much fuller than *Virgil*, where he brings in his contented old Man *Corycius*, G. 4. *Ovid* represents a good old Couple, happy, and satisfied in a cleanly Poverty ; hospitable, and free of the few Things that Fortune had given them ; moderate in Desires ; affectionate in their conjugal Relation ; so religious

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religious in Life, that when they observed their homely Cabin rising to a Temple, all the Bounty they asked of the Gods they had entertained, was, that they might do the Office of Priesthood there ; and at their Death not survive one another.

The Stories of *Lycaon* and *Pentheus*, not only deter from Infidelity and Irreverence to the Gods ; but the last also shews, that too great Zeal produces the same Effects as none at all ; and that Enthusiasm is often more cruel, than Atheism.

The Story of *Minos* and *Scylla* represents the Infamy of selling our Country ; and teaches, that even they who love the Crime abhor the Criminal.

In *Cippus* we find a noble Magnanimity, and heavenly Self-denial ; he preferred the Good of the Republick to his own private Grandeur ; and chose, with an exemplary Generosity, rather to live a private Free-man out of *Rome*, than to command Numbers of Slaves in it.

From the Story of *Hercules* we learn, that Glory is a Lady, who, like many others, loves to have her Admirers suffer a great deal for her. The Poet enumerates the Labours

C 6. bours

bours of the Hero ; shews how he conquered every Thing for others, but nothing for himself : Then does him the poetical Justice of an Apotheosis ; thinking it most fit that one who had borne the celestial Orbs on his Shoulders, should have a Mansion amongst them.

From the Assumption of *Romulus* ; that when War is at an End, the chief Business of Peace should be the enacting good Laws ; that after a People are preserv'd from the Enemy, the next Care should be, to preserve them from themselves ; and therefore the best Legislators deserve a Place amongst Heroes and Deities.

From *Ariadne* being inhumanly deserted by *Theseus* ; and generously received by *Bacchus* ; we find, that as there is nothing we can be sure of, so there is nothing we ought to despair of.

From *Althea* burning the Brand ; that we should take Care lest under the Notion of Justice we should do a Cruelty ; for they that are set upon Revenge, only endeavour to imitate the Injury.

From *Polyphemus* making Love to *Galatea*, one may observe that the most deformed can find

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find something to like in their own Person. He examines his Face in the Stream, combs his ruful Locks with a Rake, grows more exact, and studious of his Dress, and discovers the first Sign of being in Love, by endeavouring at a more than usual Care to please.

The Fable of *Cephalus* and *Procris* confirms, that every Trifle contributes to heighten the Disease of Jealousy ; and that the most convincing Proofs can scarce cure it.

From that of *Hippomenes* and *Atalanta* we may discover, that a generous Present helps to persuade, as well as an agreeable Person.

From *Medea's* flying from *Pelias's* Court ; that the offered Favours of the impious should be always suspected ; and that they, who design to make every one fear them, are afraid of every one.

From *Myrrha* ; that Shame is sometimes hard to be overcome, but if the Sex once gets the better of it, it gives them afterwards no more Trouble.

From *Cenis* ; that Effeminacy in Youth may change to Valour in Manhood, and that as Fame perishes so does Censure.

From

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From *Tereus* ; that one Crime lays the Foundation of many ; and that the same Person who begins with Lust, may conclude with Murther.

From *Midas* ; that nobody can punish a covetous Man worse than he punishes himself ; that scarce any thing would sometimes prove more fatal to us, than the Completion of our own Wishes ; and that he who has the most Desires, will certainly meet with the most Disappointments.

From the *Pythagorean* Philosophy, it may be observed, that Man is the only Animal, who kills his Fellow-creature without being angry.

From *Proteus* we have this Lesson, that a Statesman can put on any Shape ; can be a Spaniel to the Lion, and a Lion to the Spaniel ; and that he knows not to be an Enemy, who knows not how to seem a Friend ; that if all Crowns should change their Ministry, as often as they please, though they may be called other Ministers, they are still the same Men.

The Legend of *Æsculapius's* Voyage to Rome in form of a Snake, seems to express the necessary Sagacity required in Professors of that Art for the readier Insight into Distempers :
This

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This Reptile being celebrated by the ancient Naturalists for a quick Sight.

Cur in amicorum vitium tam cernis acutum

Quam aut aquilæ, aut serpens Epidaurius?—

Hor. Sat. 3. l. 1.

The venerable *Epidaurean* assumed the Figure of an Animal without Hands to take Fees; and therefore, grateful Posterity honoured him with a Temple. In this Manner should wealthy Physicians, upon proper Occasions, practise; and thus their surviving Patients reward.

If the *Metamorphoses* be attended to with a just Application, and without Prepossession; One will be the less surprized at the Author's Prophetick Spirit, relating to the Duration and Success of the Work.

Jamque opus exegi, &c.

This Prediction has so far proved true, that this Poem has been, ever since, the Magazine which has furnished the greatest Poets of the following Ages with Fancy and Allusions; and the most celebrated Painters with Subjects and Design. Nor have his poetical Predecessors and Contemporaries, paid less Regard to their own Performances.

Insignemque meo capiti petere inde coronam,

Unde prius nulli velârunt tempora Musæ. Lucr. B. 1.

Nem

*Nemo me lacrumeis decoret, nec funera fletu
Facit; quur volito vivu' per ora virum. Enn. Frag.
———Tentanda via est, quâ me quoque possim
Tollere humo, victorque virum volitare per ora.*

Vir. G. 3.

*Me doctarum Ederæ præmia frontium
Diis miscent superis——*

Hor. Od. 1.

Again,

*Exegi monumentum ære perennius,
Regalique situ Pyramidum altius,
Quod non imber edax, non Aquilo impotens
Possit diruere, aut innumerabilis
Annorum series, & fuga temporum.
Non omnis moriar.——*

Hor. B. 3. Od. 30.

The whole Ode is, in a manner, a continued Compliment to his own Writings; nor, in imitation of this celebrated Author, want we Poets of our present Age, who have been pleased to rank themselves amongst their own Admirers.

I have done with the Original, and shall make no Excuse for the Length of the Preface, because it is in the Power of the Reader to make it as short as he pleases. I shall now conclude with a Word or two about the Version.

Translation is commonly either Verbal, or Paraphrase, or Imitation; of the first is Mr. Sands's, which I think the *Metamorphoses* can
by

by no means allow of. It is agreed, the Author left it unfinished ; if it had undergone his last Hand, it is more than probable, that many Superfluities had been retrenched. Where a Poem is perfectly finished, the Translation, with regard to particular Idioms, cannot be too exact ; by doing this, the Sense of the Author is more entirely his own, and the Cast of the Periods more faithfully preserved : but where a Poem is tedious through Exuberance, or dark through a hasty Brevity, I think the Translator may be excused for doing what the Author, upon revising, would have done himself.

If Mr. *Sands* had been of this Opinion, perhaps other Translations of the *Metamorphoses* had not been attempted.

A Critick has observed, that in his Version of this Book, he has scrupulously confined the Number of his Lines to those of the Original. 'Tis fit I should take the Sum upon Content, and be better bred than to count after him.

The Manner that seems most suited for this present Undertaking, is neither to follow the Author too close out of a Critical Timorousness ; nor abandon him too wantonly through a Poetick Boldness. The Original should always be kept in View, without too apparent
a Devia-

a Deviation from the Sense. Where it is otherwise, it is not a Version, but an Imitation. The Translator ought to be as intent to keep up the Gracefulness of the Poem, as artful to hide its Imperfections ; to copy its Beauties, and to throw a Shade over its Blemishes ; to be faithful to an Idolatry, where the Author excels ; and to take the Licence of a little Paraphrase, where Penury of Fancy, or Dryness of Expression seem to ask for it.

The ingenious Gentlemen concerned in this Undertaking seem to be of this Opinion ; and therefore they have not only consulted the Reputation of the Author, but their own also. There is one of them has no other Share in this Compliment than by being the Occasion of engaging them that have, in obliging the Publick. He has also been so just to the Memory of Mr. *Dryden*, as to give his incomparable Lines the Advantage of appearing so near his own.

I cannot pass by that admirable *English* Poet, without endeavouring to make his Country sensible of the Obligations they have to his Muse. Whether they consider the flowing Grace of his Versification ; the vigorous Sallies of his Fancy ; or the peculiar Delicacy of his Periods ; they'll discover Excellencies never to be enough admired. If they trace him

him from the first Productions of his Youth, to the last Performances of his Age, they'll find, that as the Tyranny of Rhyme never imposed on the Perspicuity of the Sense ; so a languid Sense never wanted to be set off by the Harmony of Rhyme. And as his earlier Works wanted no Maturity, so his latter wanted no Force or Spirit. The falling off of his Hair, had no other Consequence, than to make his Laurels be seen the more.

As a Translator he was just ; as an Inventor he was rich. His Versions of some Parts of *Lucretius*, *Horace*, *Homer*, and *Virgil* throughout, gave him a just Pretence to that Compliment which was made to *Monsieur d'Ablancourt*, a celebrated *French* Translator ; *It is uncertain who have the greatest Obligations to him, the Dead or the Living.*

With all these wonderous Talents, he was libelled in his Life-time by the very Men, who had no other Excellencies, but as they were his Imitators. Where he was allowed to have Sentiments superior to all others, they charged him with Theft : But how did he steal ? No otherwise than like those that steal Beggars Children, only to cloath them the better.

'Tis

'Tis to be lamented, that Gentlemen still continue this unfair Behaviour, and treat one another every Day with most injurious Libels. The Muses should be Ladies of a chaste and fair Behaviour : when they are otherwise, they are Furies. 'Tis certain that *Parnassus* is at best but a barren Mountain, and its Inhabitants contrive to make it more so, by their un-neighbourly Deportment ; the Authors are the only Corporation that endeavour at the Ruin of their own Society. Every Day may convince them, how much a rich Fool is respected above a poor Wit. The only Talents in esteem at present are those of *Exchange-Alley* ; one Tally is worth a Grove of Bays ; and 'tis of much more Consequence to be well read in the Tables of Interest and the Rise and Fall of Stocks, than in the Revolution of Empires.

Mr. *Dryden* is still a sad and shameful Instance of this Truth : The Man that could make Kings immortal, and raise triumphant Arches to Heroes, now wants a poor square Foot of Stone, to show where the Ashes of one of the greatest Poets, that ever was upon Earth, are deposited.



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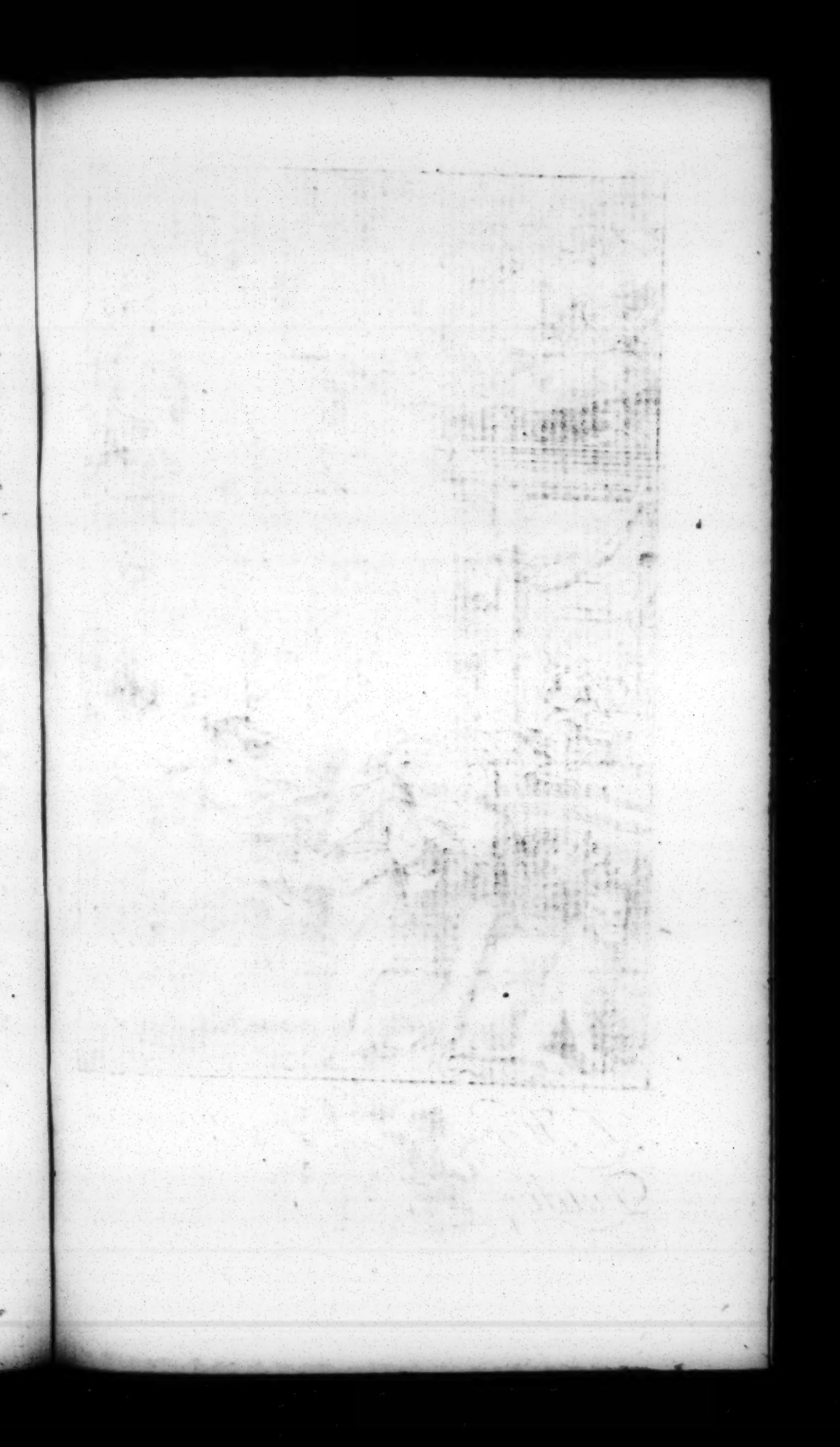
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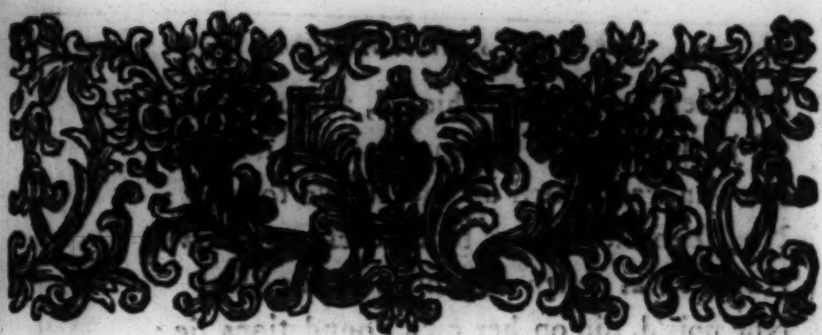


OVID's





To Her Grace y^e
Dutch of Kingston
B.I.



O V I D's
METAMORPHOSES.
BOOK I.

Translated by Mr. JOHN DRYDEN.



F Bodies chang'd to various Forms, I
sing :
Ye Gods, from whom these Miracles did
spring,

Inspire my Numbers with celestial Heat;
Till I my long laborious Work compleat :
And add perpetual Tenour to my Rhimes,
Deduc'd from Nature's Birth to *Cæsar's* Times.

Before the Seas and this terrestrial Ball,
And Heav'n's high Canopy, that covers all,
One was the Face of Nature ; if a Face :
Rather a rude and indigested Mass :

A lifeless Lump, unfashion'd, and unfram'd,
 Of jarring Seeds ; and justly *Chaos* nam'd.
 No Sun was lighted up the World to view ;
 No Moon did yet her blunted Horns renew :
 Nor yet was Earth suspended in the Sky ;
 Nor pois'd, did on her own Foundations lie :
 Nor Seas about the Shores their Arms had thrown ;
 But Earth and Air and Water, were in one.
 Thus Air was void of Light, and Earth unstable,
 And Water's dark Abyss unnavigable.
 No certain Form on any was impress ;
 All were confus'd, and each disturb'd the rest.
 For hot and cold were in one Body fixt ;
 And soft with hard, and light with heavy mixt.

But God, or Nature, while they thus contend,
 To the intestine Discords put an end :
 Then Earth from Air, and Seas from Earth were driv'n,
 And grosser Air sunk from ætherial Heav'n.
 Thus disembroil'd, they take their proper Place ;
 The next of kin, contiguously embrace ;
 And Foes are sunder'd, by a larger Space. }
 The Force of Fire ascended first on high,
 And took its Dwelling in the vaulted Sky :
 Then Air succeeds, in Lightness next to Fire ;
 Whose Atoms from unactive Earth retire.
 Earth sinks beneath, and draws a num'rous Throng
 Of pond'rous, thick, unweildy Seeds along.
 About her Coasts unruly Waters roar,
 And rising on a Ridge insult the Shore.
 Thus when the God, whatever God was he,
 Had form'd the Whole, and made the Parts agree,

That

Book I. OVID'S *Metamorphoses*.

5

I. That no unequal Portions might be found,
He moulded Earth into a spacious Round :
Then with a Breath, he gave the Winds to blow,
And bade the congregated Waters flow.
He adds the running Springs, and standing Lakes,
And bounding Banks for winding Rivers makes.
Some Part in Earth are swallow'd up, the most
In ample Oceans disembogu'd, are lost.
He shades the woods, the Vallies he restrains
With rocky Mountains, and extends the Plains.

And as five Zones th' ætherial Regions bind,
Five, correspondent, are to Earth assign'd :
The Sun, with Rays directly darting down,
Fires all beneath, and fries the middle Zone :
The two beneath the distant Poles complain
Of endless Winter and perpetual Rain.
Betwixt th' Extreame, two happier Climates hold
The Temper that partakes of Hot and Cold.
The Fields of liquid Air, inclosing all,
Surround the Compass of this earthly Ball :
The lighter Parts lie next the Fires above ;
The grosser near the watery Surface move :
Thick Clouds are spread, and Storms engender there,
And Thunder's Voice, which wretched Mortals fear, }
And Winds that on their Wings cold Winter bear.
Nor were those blust'ring Brethren left at large,
On Seas and Shores their Fury to discharge :
Bound as they are, and circumscrib'd in Place,
They rend the World resistless, where they pass ;
And mighty Marks of Mischief leave behind,
Such is the Rage of their tempestuous Kind.

First *Eurus* to the rising Morn is sent,
 (The Regions of the balmy Continent ;)
 And *Eastern* Realms, where early *Persians* run,
 To greet the blest Appearance of the Sun.
Westward the wanton *Zephyr* wings his Flight,
 Pleas'd with the Remnants of departing Light :
 Fierce *Boreas*, with his Offspring, issues forth
 T'invade the frozen Waggon of the *North*.
 While frowning *Auster* seeks the *Southern* Sphere ;
 And rots, with endless Rain, th' unwholsome Year.

High o'er the Clouds, and empty Realms of Wind,
 The God a clearer Space for Heav'n design'd ;
 Where Fields of Light, and liquid *Æther* flow ;
 Purg'd from the pond'rous Dregs of Earth below.

Scarce had the Pow'r distinguish'd these, when streight
 The Stars, no longer overlaid with Weight,
 Exert their Heads, from underneath the Mass ;
 And upward shoot, and kindle as they pass, }
 And with diffusive Light adorn their heav'nly Place.
 Then, every Void of Nature to supply,
 With Forms of Gods he fills the vacant Sky :
 New Herds of Beasts he sends, the Plains to share :
 New Colonies of Birds to people Air : }
 And to their oozy Beds, the finny Fish repair.

A Creature of a more exalted Kind
 Was wanting yet, and then was Man design'd ;
 Conscious of Thought, of more capacious Breast,
 For Empire form'd, and fit to rule the rest :
 Whether with Particles of heav'nly Fire
 The God of Nature did his Soul inspire,

Book I. OVID's *Metamorphoses*. 7

Or Earth, but new divided from the Sky,
 And, pliant, still retain'd th' ætherial Energy :
 Which wise *Prometheus* temper'd into Paffe,
 And mixt with living Streams the godlike Image cast.
 Thus, while the mute Creation downward bend
 Their Sight, and to their earthly Mother tend,
 Man looks aloft ; and with erected Eyes
 Beholds his own hereditary Skies.
 From such rude Principles our Form began,
 And Earth was metamorphos'd into Man.

The GOLDEN AGE.

The Golden Age was first ; when Man yet new,
 No Rule but uncorrupted Reason knew :
 And with a native Bent, did Good pursue.
 Unforc'd by Punishment, unaw'd by Fear,
 His Words were simple, and his Soul sincere ;
 Needless was written Law, where none oppress :
 The Law of Man was written in his Breast :
 No suppliant Crowds before the Judge appear'd,
 No Court erected yet, no Cause was heard,
 But all was safe, for Conscience was their Guard.
 The Mountain-Trees in distant Prospect please.
 E're yet the Pine descended to the Seas ;
 E're Sails were spread, new Oceans to explore ;
 And happy Mortals, unconcern'd for more,
 Confin'd their Wishes to their native Shore.
 No Walls were yet, nor Fence, nor Moat, nor Mound,
 Nor Drum was heard, nor Trumpet's angry sound :

Nor Swords were forg'd ; but void of Care and Crime,
 The soft Creation slept away their Time.
 The teeming Earth yet guiltless of the Plough,
 And unprovok'd did fruitful Stores allow :
 Content with Food, which Nature freely bred,
 On Wildings and on Strawberries they fed ;
 Cornels and Bramble-berries gave the rest,
 And falling Acorns furnish'd out a Feast.
 The Flow'rs unsown in Fields and Meadows reign'd :
 And *Western* Winds immortal Spring maintain'd.
 In following Years, the bearded Corn ensu'd
 From Earth unask'd, nor was that Earth renew'd.
 From Veins of Vallies, Milk and Nectar broke,
 And Honey sweating through the Pores of Oak.

The SILVER AGE.

But when good *Saturn*, banish'd from above,
 Was driv'n to Hell, the World was under *Jove*.
 Succeeding Times a Silver Age behold,
 Excelling Brass, but more excell'd by Gold.
 Then Summer, Autumn, Winter, did appear ;
 And Spring was but a Season of the Year.
 The Sun his annual Course obliquely made,
 Good Days contracted, and enlarg'd the bad.
 Then Air with sultry Heats began to glow ;
 The Wings of Winds were clogg'd with Ice and Snow ;
 And shivering Mortals into Houses driv'n,
 Sought Shelter from th' Inclemency of Heav'n.
 Those Houses then were Caves, or homely Sheds,
 With twining Oziers fenc'd ; and Moss their Beds.

Then

Then Ploughs, for Seed, the fruitful Furrows broke,
And Oxen labour'd first beneath the Yoke.

The BRAZEN AGE.

To this came next in course, the Brazen Age :
A warlike Offspring, prompt to bloody Rage,
Not impious yet.——

The IRON AGE,

——Hard Steel succeeded then ;
And stubborn as the Metal, were the Men.
Truth, Modesty, and Shame, the World forsook :
Fraud, Avarice and Force their Places took.
Then Sails were spread, to every Wind that blew.
Raw were the Sailors, and the Depths were new :
Trees rudely hollow'd, did the Waves sustain,
E're Ships in Triumph plough'd the wat'ry Plain.

Then Landmarks limited to each his Right ;
For all before was common as the Light.
Nor was the Ground alone requir'd to bear
Her annual Income to the crooked Share,
But greedy Mortals, rummaging her Store,
Digg'd from her Entrails first the precious Oar ;
Which next to Hell the prudent Gods had laid ;
And that alluring Ill to Sight display'd.
Thus cursed Steel, and more accursed Gold,
Gave Mischief Birth, and made that Mischief bold :
And double Death did wretched Man invade,
By Steel assaulted, and by Gold betray'd.

Now (brandish'd Weapons glittering in their Hands)
 Mankind is broken loose from moral Bands ;
 No Rights of Hospitality remain :
 The Guest, by him who harbour'd him, is slain ;
 The Son-in-Law pursues the Father's Life ;
 The Wife her Husband murders ; he the Wife.
 The Step dame Poison for the Son prepares ;
 The Son inquires into his Father's Years.
 Faith flies, and Piety in Exile mourns ;
 And Justice, here oppress'd, to Heav'n returns.

The GIANTS WAR.

Nor were the Gods themselves more safe above ;
 Against beleaguer'd Heav'n the Giants move.
 Hills pil'd on Hills, on Mountains Mountains lie,
 To make their mad Approaches to the Sky.
 'Till *Jove*, no longer patient, took his Time
 T'avenge with Thunder their audacious Crime :
 Red Lightning play'd along the Firmament,
 And their demolish'd Works to pieces rent.
 Sing'd with the Flames, and with the Bolts transfixt,
 With native Earth, their Blood the Monsters mixt ;
 The Blood, indu'd with animating Heat,
 Did in th'impregnant Earth new Sons beget :
 They, like the Seed from which they sprung, accurst,
 Against the Gods immortal Hatred nurs't.
 An impious, arrogant, and cruel Brood ;
 Expressing their Original from Blood.

Which when the King of Gods beheld from high
 (Withal revolving in his Memory,

What

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What he himself had found on Earth of late,
Lycaon's Guilt, and his inhumane Treat,)
He sigh'd ; nor longer with his Pity strove,
But kindled to a Wrath becoming *Jove* :

Then call'd a General Council of the Gods ;
Who summon'd, issue from their blest Abodes,
And fill th' Assembly with a shining Train.
A Way there is, in Heav'n's expanded Plain
Which, when the Skies are clear is seen below,
And Mortals, by the Name of Milky, know.
The Ground-work is of Stars ; through which the Road
Lies open to the Thunderer's Abode :
The Gods of greater Nations dwell around,
And on the right and left the Palace bound ;
The Commons where they can : the nobler Sort
With Winding-doors wide open, front the Court:
This Place, as far as Earth with Heav'n may vie,
I dare to call the *Louvre* of the Sky.
When all were plac'd, in Seats distinctly known,
And he, their Father, had assum'd the Throne,
Upon his Iv'ry Sceptre first he leant,
Then shook his Head, that shook the Firmament :
Air, Earth, and Seas, obey'd th' Almighty Nod,
And with a gen'ral Fear confess'd the God.
At length, with Indignation, thus he broke
His awful Silence, and the Pow'rs bespoke.

I was not more concern'd in that Debate
Of Empire, when our universal State
Was put to hazard, and the Giant Race
Our captive Skies were ready to embrace :

For tho' the Foe was fierce, the Seeds of all
 Rebellion, sprung from one Original ;
 Now, wheresoever ambient Waters glide,
 All are corrupt, and all must be destroy'd.
 Let me this holy Protestation make,
 By Hell, and Hell's inviolable Lake,
 I try'd whatever in the Godhead lay :
 But gangren'd Members must be lopt away,
 Before the nobler Parts are tainted to decay.
 There dwells below a Race of Demi-gods,
 Of Nymphs in Waters, and of Fawns in Woods ;
 Who, tho' not worthy yet, in Heav'n to live,
 Let 'em, at least enjoy that Earth we give.
 Can these be thought securely lodg'd below,
 When I myself, who no Superior know,
 I, who have Heav'n and Earth at my Command,
 Have been attempted by *Lycaon's* Hand ?

At this a Murmur through the Synod went,
 And with one Voice they vote his Punishment.
 Thus, when conspiring Traitors dar'd to doom
 The Fall of *Cæsar*, and in him of *Rome*,
 The Nations trembled with a pious Fear,
 All anxious for their earthly Thunderer :
 Nor was their Care, O *Cæsar*, less esteem'd
 By thee, than that of Heav'n for *Jove* was deem'd ;
 Who with his Hand and Voice did first restrain
 Their Murmurs, then resum'd his Speech again.
 The Gods to Silence were compos'd, and fate
 With Reverence due to his superior State.

Cancel your pious Carés ; already he
 Has paid his Debt to Justice and to me.

Yet

Yet what his Crimes, and what my Judgments were,
Remains for me thus briefly to declare.
The Clamours of this vile degenerate Age,
The Cries of Orphans, and th' Oppressor's Rage,
Had reach'd the Stars : I will descend, said I,
In hope to prove this loud Complaint a Lie.
Disguis'd in human Shape, I travell'd round
The World, and more than what I heard, I found.
O'er *Mænalus* I took my steepy Way,
By Caverns infamous for Beasts of Prey :
Then cross'd *Cyllenê*, and the piny Shade,
More infamous by curst *Lycaôn* made :
Dark Night had cover'd Heav'n and Earth, before
I enter'd his unhospitable Door.
Just at my Entrance I display'd the Sign
That somewhat was approaching of divine.
The prostrate People pray ; the Tyrant grins ;
And adding Profanation to his Sins,
I'll try, said he, and if a God appear,
To prove his Deity shall cost him dear.
'Twas late ; the graceless Wretch my Death prepares,
When I should soundly sleep, oppress'd with Cares :
This dire Experiment he chose, to prove
If I were mortal, or undoubted *Jove* :
But first he had resolv'd to taste my Pow'r ;
Not long before, but in a luckless Hour,
Some Legates, sent from the *Molossian* State,
Were on a peaceful Errand come to treat :
Of these he murders one ; he boils the Flesh,
And lays the mangled Morfels in a Dish :

Some

Some Part he roasts ; then serves it up so drest,
 And bids me welcome to this humane Feast.
 Mov'd with Disdain, the Table I o'erturn'd ;
 And with avenging Flames, the Palace burn'd.
 The Tyrant, in a Fright, for Shelter gains
 The neighb'ring Fields, and scours along the Plains.
 Howling he fled, and fain he would have spoke ;
 But human Voice his brutal Tongue forsook.
 About his Lips, the gather'd Foam he churns,
 And, breathing Slaughters, still with Rage he burns, }
 But on the bleating Flock his Fury turns.
 His Mantle, now his Hide, with rugged Hairs
 Cleaves to his Back ; a famish'd Face he bears ;
 His Arms descend, his Shoulders sink away
 To multiply his Legs for Chace of Prey.
 He grows a Wolf, his Hoariness remains,
 And the same Rage in other Members reigns.
 His Eyes still sparkle in a narr'wer Space :
 His Jaws retain the Grin, and Violence of his Face.

This was a single Ruin, but not one
 Deserves so just a Punishment alone.
 Mankind's a Monster, and th' ungodly Times
 Confed'rate into Guilt, are sworn to Crimes.
 All are alike involv'd in Ill, and all
 Must by the same relentless Fury fall.
 Thus ended he : the greater Gods assent ;
 By Clamours urging his severe Intent ;
 The less fill up the Cry for Punishment. }
 Yet still with Pity they remember Man,
 And mourn as much as heav'nly Spirits can.

They

They ask, when those were lost of human Birth,
What he would do with all this Waste of Earth :
If his dispeopl'd World he would resign
To Beasts, a mute and more ignoble Line ;
Neglected Altars must no longer smoke,
If none were left to worship and invoke.
To whom the Father of the Gods reply'd,
Lay that unnecessary Fear aside :
Mine be the Care new People to provide.
I will from wond'rous Principles ordain
A Race unlike the first, and try my Skill again.

Already had he toss'd the flaming Brand,
And roll'd the Thunder in his spacious Hand ;
Preparing to discharge on Seas and Land :
But stopt, for fear, thus violently driv'n,
The Sparks should catch his Axle-tree of Heav'n.
Rememb'ring in the Fates, a Time when Fire
Should to the Battlements of Heav'n aspire,
And all his blazing Worlds above shou'd burn,
And all th' inferior Globe to Cinders turn.
His dire Artill'ry thus dismiss'd, he bent
His Thoughts to some securer Punishment ;
Concludes to pour a wat'ry Deluge down,
And what he durst not burn, resolves to drown.

The Northern Breath, that freezes Floods, he binds,
With all the Race of cloud-dispelling Winds ;
The South he loos'd, who Night and Horror brings,
And Fogs are shaken from his flaggy Wings :
From his divided Beard two Streams he pours,
His Head and rheumy Eyes distil in Show'rs.

With

With Rain his Robe, and heavy Mantle flow ;
 And lazy Mists are low'ring on his Brow ;
 Still as he swept along, with his clench'd Fist
 He squeez'd the Clouds, th' imprison'd Clouds resist :
 The Skies, from Pole to Pole, with Peals resound,
 And Show'rs enlarg'd come pouring on the Ground.
 Then clad in Colours of a various Dye,

Junonian Iris breeds a new Supply
 To feed the Clouds : Impetuous Rain descends ;
 The bearded Corn beneath the Burden bends :
 Defrauded Clowns deplore their perish'd Grain,
 And the long Labours of the Year are vain.

Nor from his patrimonial Heaven alone
 Is *Jove* content to pour his Vengeance down ;
 Aid from his Brother of the Seas he craves,
 To help him with auxiliary Waves.
 The wat'ry Tyrant calls his Brooks and Floods,
 Who rowl from mossy Caves (their moist Abodes ;)
 And with perpetual Urns his Palace fill :
 To whom, in brief, he thus imparts his Will.

Small Exhortation needs ; your Pow'rs employ ;
 And this bad World, so *Jove* requires, destroy.
 Let loose the Reins to all your wat'ry Store ;
 Bear down the Dams, and open ev'ry Door.

The Floods, by Nature Enemies to Land,
 And proudly swelling with their new Command,
 Remove the living Stones, that stopt their Way,
 And gushing from their Source augment the Sea.
 Then, with his Mace, their Monarch struck the Ground ;
 With inward Trembling Earth receiv'd the Wound, }
 And rising Streams a ready Passage found.

Th' ex-

Th' expanded Waters gather on the Plain :
They float the Fields, and over-top the Grain ;
Then rushing onwards with a sweepy Sway,
Bear Flocks, and Folds, and lab'ring Hinds away.
Nor safe their Dwellings were, for sapp'd by Floods,
Their Houses fell upon their Household Gods,
The solid Piles too strongly built to fall,
High o'er their Heads behold a wat'ry Wall :
Now Seas and Earth were in Confusion lost,
A World of Waters, and without a Coast.

One climbs a Cliff; one in his boat is born,
And ploughs above, where late he sow'd his Corn.
Others o'er Chimney-tops and Turrets row,
And drop their Anchors on the Meads below :
Or downward driv'n, they bruise the tender Vine,
Or tost aloft, are knock'd against a Pine.
And where of late the Kids had cropt the Grass,
The Monsters of the Deep now take their Place.
Insulting Nereids on the Cities ride,
And wond'ring Dolphins o'er the Palace glide.
On Leaves and Masts of mighty Oaks they brouze,
And their broad Fins entangle in the Boughs.
The frighted Wolf now swims amongst the Sheep ;
The yellow Lion wanders in the Deep ;
His rapid Force no longer helps the Boar ;
The Stag swims faster, than he ran before.
The Fowls, long beating on their Wings in vain,
Despair of Land and drop into the Ma n.
Now Hills and Vales no more Distinction know,
And level'd Nature lies oppress'd below.

The

The most of Mortals perish in the Flood ;
 The small Remainder dies for want of Food.

A Mountain of stupendous Height there stands
 Betwixt th' *Atbenian* and *Bæotian* Lands,
 The Bound of fruitful Fields, while Fields they were,
 But then a Field of Waters did appear :
Parnassus is its Name ; whose forky Rise
 Mounts through the Clouds, and mates the lofty Skies.
 High on the Summit of this dubious Cliff,
Deucalion wafting, moor'd his little Skiff.
 He with his Wife were only left behind
 Of perish'd Man : they two were Human Kind.
 The Mountain Nymphs, and *Themis* they adore,
 And from her Oracles Relief implore.
 The most upright of mortal Men was he ;
 The most sincere and holy Woman, she.

When *Jupiter*, surveying Earth from high,
 Beheld it in a Lake of Water lie,
 That where so many Millions lately liv'd,
 But two, the best of either Sex, surviv'd ;
 He loos'd the Northern Wind ; fierce *Boreas* flies
 To puff away the Clouds, and purge the Skies :
 Serenely, while he blows, the Vapours driv'n,
 Discover Heav'n to Earth and Earth to Heav'n.
 The Billows fall, while *Neptune* lays his Mace
 On the rough Sea, and smooths its furrow'd Face.
 Already *Triton*, at his Call appears
 Above the Waves ; a *Tyrian* Robe he wears,
 And in his Hand a crooked Trumpet bears.

}
 The

The Sovereign bids him peaceful Sounds inspire,
And give the Waves the Signal to retire.

His writhen Shell he takes, whose narrow Vent
Grows by Degrees into a large Extent,
Then gives it Breath ; the Blast with doubling Sound,
Runs the wide Circuit of the World around.

The Sun first heard it, in his early East,
And met the rattling Echoes in the West.
The Waters, list'ning to the Trumpet's Roar,
Obey the Summons, and forsake the Shore.

A thin Circumference of Land appears,
And Earth, but not at once, her Visage rears,
And peeps upon the Seas from upper Grounds ;
The Streams, but just contain'd within their Bounds,
By slow Degrees into their Channels crawl,
And Earth, increases, as the Waters fall.
In longer Time the Tops of Trees appear,
Which Mud on their dishonour'd Branches bear.

At length the World was all restor'd to view ;
But desolate, and of a sickly Hue ;
Nature beheld herself, and stood aghast,
A dismal Desert, and a silent Waste.

Which when *Deucalion*, with a piteous Look
Beheld, he wept, and thus to *Pyrrha* spoke :
Oh Wife ! oh Sister ! oh, of all thy Kind
The best, and only Creature left behind,
By Kindred, Love, and now by Nature join'd ;
Of Multitudes, who breath'd the common Air,
We two remain ; a Species in a Pair :

The

The rest the Seas have swallow'd ; nor have we
 Ev'n of this wretched Life a Certainty.

The Clouds are still above ; and while I speak,
 A second Deluge o'er our Heads may break.

Shou'd I be snatch'd from hence, and thou remain,

Without Relief, or Partner of thy Pain,

How cou'dst thou such a wretched Life sustain ?

Shou'd I be left, and thou be lost, the Sea

That bury'd her I lov'd, shou'd bury me.

Oh cou'd our Father his old Arts inspire,

And make me Heir of his informing Fire,

That so I might abolish'd Man retrieve,

And perish'd People in new Souls might live.

But Heav'n is pleas'd, nor ought we to complain,

That we, th' Examples of Mankind, remain.

He said ; the careful Couple join their Tears ;

And then invoke the Gods with pious Prayers.

Thus in Devotion having eas'd their Grief,

From sacred Oracles they seek Relief ;

And to *Cephus*' Brook their Way pursue :

The Stream was troubled, but the Ford they knew ;

With living Waters, in the Fountain bred,

They sprinkle first their Garments, and their Head,

Then took the Way which to th' temple led.

The Roofs were all defil'd with Moss and Mire,

The desert Altars void of solemn Fire.

Before the Gradual prostrate they ador'd ;

The Pavement kiss'd, and thus the Saint implor'd.

O righteous *Themis*, if the Pow'rs above

By Pray'rs are bent to pity and to love ;

If

If human Miseries can move their Mind,
If yet they can forgive, and yet be kind ;
Tell how we may restore, by second Birth,
Mankind, and people desolated Earth.

Then thus the gracious Goddess, nodding, said,
Depart, and with your Vestments veil your Head ;
And stooping lowly down, with loosen'd Zones,
Throw each behind your Backs, your mighty Mother's
bones.

Amaz'd the Pair, and mute with Wonder stand,
'Till *Pyrrha* first refus'd the dire Command.
Forbid it Heav'n, said she, that I shou'd tear
Those holy Reliques from the Sepulchre.
They ponder'd the mysterious Words again,
For some new Sense ; and long they sought in vain :
At length *Deucalion* clear'd his cloudy Brow,
And said, the dark *Ænigma* will allow
A Meaning, which if well I understand,
From Sacrilege will free the God's Command :
This Earth our mighty Mother is, the Stones
In her capacious Body are her Bones :
These we must cast behind. With Hope and Fear,
The Woman did the new Solution hear :
The Man diffides in his own Augury,
And doubts the Gods ; yet both resolve to try.
Descending from the Mount, they first unbind
Their Vests, and veil'd, they cast the Stones behind ;
The Stones (a Miracle to mortal View,
But long Tradition makes it pass for true)
Did first the Rigour of their Kind expel,
And suppld into Softness, as they fell ;

Then

Then swell'd, and swelling, by Degrees grew warm,
And took the Rudiments of human Form.
Imperfect Shapes ; in Marble such are seen,
When the rude Chissel does the Man begin ;
While yet the Roughness of the Stone remains,
Without the rising Muscles and the Veins.
The sappy Parts, and next resembling Juice,
Were turn'd to Moisture, for the Body's Use ;
Supplying Humours, Blood, and Nourishment,
The rest too solid to receive a Bent,
Converts to Bones ; and what was once a Vein,
Its former Name and Nature did retain.
By help of Pow'r Divine, in little Space,
What the Man threw assum'd a manly Face ;
And what the Wife, renew'd the female Race.
Hence we derive our Nature ; born to bear
Laborious Life, and harden'd into Care.

The rest of Animals, from teeming Earth
Produc'd, in various Forms receiv'd their Birth.
The native Moisture, in its close Retreat,
Digested by the Sun's ætherial Heat,
As in a kindly Womb began to breed ;
Then swell'd, and quicken'd by the vital Seed.
And some in less, and some in longer Space,
Were ripen'd into Form, and took a sev'ral Face.
Thus when the Nile from Pharian Fields is fled,
And seeks with Ebbing Tides, his ancient Bed,
The fat Manure with Heav'nly Fire is warm'd,
And crusted Creatures, as in Wombs, are form'd ;
These, when they turn the Glebe, the Peasants find,
Some rude, and yet unfinish'd in their Kind :

Short

Short of their Limbs, a lame, imperfect Birth ;
One half alive ; and one of lifeless Earth.

For Heat and Moisture, when in Bodies join'd,
The Temper that results from either Kind
Conception makes ; and fighting till they mix,
Their mingled Atoms in each other fix.

Thus Nature's Hand the genial Bed prepares
With friendly Discord, and with fruitful Wars.

From hence the Surface of the Ground, with Mud
And Slime besmear'd, (the Fæces of the Flood)
Receiv'd the Rays of Heav'n ; and sucking in
The Seeds of Heat, new Creatures did begin :
Some were of sev'ral Sorts produc'd before,
But of new Monsters, Earth created more.
Unwillingly, but yet she brought to light
Thee, *Python* too, the wond'ring World to fright, }
And the new Nations with so dire a Sight :
So monstrous was his Bulk, so large a Space
Did his vast Body, and long Train embrace.
Whom *Phæbus* basking on a Bank espy'd ;
E're now the God his Arrows had not try'd
But on the trembling Deer, or Mountain Goat ;
At this new Quarry he prepares to shoot.
Though every Shaft took place, he spent the Store }
Of his full Quiver ; and 'twas long before
Th' expiring Serpent wallow'd in his Gore.
Then, to preserve the Fame of such a Deed,
For *Python* slain, he *Pythian* Games decreed.
Where noble Youths for Mastership shou'd strive,
To quoit, to run, and Steeds, and Chariots drive.

The

The Prize was Fame : In Witness of Renown
 An oaken Garland did the Victor crown,
 The Laurel was not yet for Triumphs born ;
 But every Green alike by *Phæbus* worn,
 Did, with promiscuous Grace his flowing Locks adorn. }

The Transformation of DAPHNE into a Laurel.

The first and fairest of his Loves was she,
 Whom not blind Fortune, but the dire Decree
 Of angry *Cupid* forc'd him to desire :
Daphne her Name, and *Peneus* was her Sire.
 Swell'd with the Pride, that new Success attends,
 He sees the Stripling, while his Bow he bends,
 And thus insult's him : 'Thou lascivious Boy,
 Are Arms like these for Children to employ ?
 Know, such Achievements are my proper Claim,
 Due to my Vigour and unerring Aim :
 Resistless are my Shafts, and *Python* late
 In such a feather'd Death, has found his Fate.
 Take up the Torch (and lay my Weapons by)
 With that the feeble Souls of Lovers fry.
 To whom the Son of *Venus* thus reply'd,
Phæbus, thy Shafts are sure on all beside,
 But mine on *Phæbus* ; mine the Fame shall be
 Of all thy Conquests, when I conquer thee.

He said, and soaring, swiftly wing'd his Flight ;
 Nor stopt but on *Parnassus*' airy Height.
 Two diff'rent Shafts he from his Quiver draws ;
 One to repel Desire, and one to cause.

One Shaft is pointed with refulgent Gold,
To bribe the Love, and make the Lover bold :
One blunt, and tipt with Lead, whose base Alloy
Provokes Disdain, and drives Desire away.
The blunted Bolt against the Nymph he drest ;
But with the sharp transfixt *Apollo's* Breast.

Th' enamour'd Deity pursues the Chace ;
The scornful Damsel shuns his loath'd Embrace :
In hunting Beasts of Prey, her Youth employs ;
And *Phæbe* rivals in her rural Joys.
With naked Neck she goes, and Shoulders bare ;
And with a Fillet binds her flowing Hair.
By many Suitors sought, she mocks their Pains,
And still her vow'd Virginity maintains.
Impatient of a Yoke, the Name of Bride
She shuns, and hates the Joys, she never try'd.
On Wilds, and Woods, she fixes her Desire ;
Nor knows what Youth, and kindly Love, inspire.
Her Father chides her oft : 'Thou ow'st, says he,
A Husband to thyself, a Son to me.
She, like a Crime, abhors the Nuptial Bed ;
She glows with Blushes, and she hangs her Head.
Then casting round his Neck her tender Arms,
Sooths him with Blandishments and filial Charms :
Give me, my Lord, she said, to live and die
A spotless Maid, without the Marriage Tie.
'Tis but a small Request ; I beg no more
Than what *Diana's* Father gave before.
The good old Sire was soften'd to consent ;
But said her Wish wou'd prove her Punishment :

For so much Youth, and so much Beauty join'd,
Oppos'd the State, which her Desires design'd.

The God of Light, aspiring to her Bed,
Hopes what he seeks, with flattering Fancies fed;
And is, by his own Oracles misled. }

And as in empty Fields, the Stubble burns,
Or nightly Travellers, when Day returns,
Their useless Torches on dry Hedges throw,
That catch the Flames, and kindle all the Row;
So burns the God, consuming in Desire,
And feeding in his Breast a fruitless Fire:
Her well-turn'd Neck he view'd (her Neck was bare)
And on her Shoulders her dishevell'd hair:

Oh, were it comb'd, said he, with what a Grace
Wou'd every waving Curl become her Face!
He view'd her Eyes, like heav'nly Lamps that shone,
He view'd her Lips, too sweet to view alone,
Her taper Fingers, and her panting Breast;
He praises all he sees, and for the rest
Believes the Beauties yet unseen are best: }

Swift as the Wind the Damsel fled away,
Nor did for these alluring Speeches stay:
Stay, Nymph, he cry'd, I follow, not a Foe.
Thus from the Lyon trips the trembling Doe;
Thus from the Wolf the frighten'd Lamb removes,
And, from pursuing Faulcons, fearful Doves; }
Thou shunn'st a God, and shunn'st a God that loves.
Ah, lest some Thorn shou'd pierce thy tender Foot,
Or thou shou'dst fall in flying my Pursuit!
To sharp uneven Ways thy Steps decline;
Abate thy Speed, and I will bate of mine.

Yet

Yet think from whom thou dost so rashly fly ;
Nor basely born, nor Shepherd's Swain am I.
Perhaps thou know'st not my superior State,
And from that Ignorance proceeds thy Hate.
Me *Claros, Delphi, Tenedos* obey :
These Hands the *Patareian* Scepter sway.
The King of Gods begot me : What shall be,
Or is, or ever was, in Fate, I see.
Mine is th' Invention of the charming Lyre ;
Sweet Notes, and heav'nly Numbers, I inspire.
Sure is my Bow, unerring is my Dart ;
But ah ! more deadly his, who pierc'd my Heart.
Med'cine is mine ; what Herbs and Simples grow
In Fields and Forests, all their Pow'rs I know ;
And am the great Physician call'd, below.
Alas, that Fields and Forests can afford
No Remedies to heal their love-sick Lord !
To cure the Pains of Love, no Plant avails ;
And his own Physick, the Physician fails.

She heard not half ; so furiously she flies ;
And on her Ear th' imperfect Accent dies,
Fear gave her Wings ; and as she fled, the Wind
Increasing, spread her flowing Hair behind ;
And left her Legs and Thighs expos'd to view :
Which made the God more eager to pursue.
The God was young, and was too hotly bent
To lose his Time in empty Compliment :
But led by Love, and fir'd with such a Sight,
Impetuously pursu'd his near Delight.

As when th' impatient Greyhound slips from far,
Bounds o'er the Glebe to course the fearful Hare,

She in her Speed does all her Safety lay ;
And he, with double Speed, pursues the Prey ;
O'er-runs her at the fitting Turn, and licks
His Chaps in vain, and blows upon the Flix :
She scapes, and for the neighb'ring Covert strives,
And gaining Shelter, doubts if yet she lives :
If little Things with great we may compare,
Such was the God, and such the flying Fair,
She, urg'd by Fear, her Feet did swiftly move,
But he more swiftly, who was urg'd by Love.
He gathers ground upon her in the Chace ;
Now breathes upon her Hair, with nearer Pace,
And just is fast'ning on the wish'd Embrace. }
The Nymph grew pale, and in a mortal Fright,
Spent with the Labour of so long a Flight :
And now despairing cast a mournful Look
Upon the Streams of her paternal Brook ;
Oh, help, she cry'd, in this extreamest Need !
If Water Gods are Deities indeed :
Gape Earth, and this unhappy Wretch intomb ;
Or change my Form, whence all my Sorrows come.
Scarce had she finish'd, when her Feet she found
Benumb'd with Cold, and fasten'd to the Ground :
A filmy Rind about her Body grows ;
Her Hair to Leaves, her Arms extend to Boughs :
The Nymph is all into a Laurel gone ;
The Smoothness of her Skin remains alone.
Yet *Phæbus* loves her stil', and casting round
Her Bole, his Arms, some little Warmth he found.
The Tree still panted in th' unfinish'd Part,
Not wholly vegetive, and heav'd her Heart.

He

He fix'd his Lips upon the trembling Rind ;
 It swerv'd aside, and his Embrace declin'd.
 To whom the God, Because thou canst not be
 My Mistress, I espouse thee for my Tree :
 Be thou the Prize of Honour and Renown ;
 The deathless Poet, and the Poem crown.
 Thou shalt the *Roman* Festivals adorn,
 And, after Poets, be by Victors worn.
 Thou shalt returning *Cæsar's* Triumph grace ;
 When Poms shall in a long Procession pass.
 Wreath'd on the Posts before his Palace wait,
 And be the sacred Guardian of the Gate.
 Secure from Thunder, and unharm'd by *Jove*,
 Unfading as th' immortal Pow'rs above :
 And as the Locks of *Phæbus* are unshorn,
 So shall perpetual Green thy Boughs adorn.
 The grateful Tree was pleas'd with what he said,
 And shook the shady Honours of her Head.

The Transformation of Io into a Heifer.

An ancient Forest in *Thessalia* grows ;
 Which *Tempe's* pleasing Valley does inclose :
 Through this the rapid *Peneus* takes his Course,
 From *Pindus* rolling with impetuous Force ;
 Mists from the River's mighty Fall arise,
 And deadly Damps inclose the cloudy Skies ;
 Perpetual Fogs are hanging o'er the Wood,
 And Sounds of Waters deaf the Neighbourhood.
 Deep, in a rocky Cave, he makes abode :
 (A Mansion proper for a mourning God.)

Here he gives Audience, issuing out Decrees
To Rivers, his dependent Deities.
On this Occasion hither they resort,
To pay their Homage, and to make their Court,
All doubtful whether to congratulate
His Daughter's Honour, or lament her Fate.
Spercheus, crown'd with Poplar, first appears ;
Then old *Apidanus* came crown'd with Years ;
Enipeus turbulent ; *Amphrysos* tame ;
And *Æas* last with lagging Waters came.
Then of his kindred Brooks, a numerous Throng
Condole his Loss, and bring their Urns along.
Not one was wanting of the wat'ry Train,
That fill'd his Flood, or mingled with the Main ;
But *Inachus*, who in his Cave, alone,
Wept not another's Losses, but his own,
For his dear *Io*, whether stray'd, or dead,
To him uncertain, doubtful Tears he shed.
He sought her through the World, but sought in vain ;
And no where finding, rather fear'd her slain.

Her, just returning from her Father's Brook,
Jove had beheld, with a desiring Look :
And, Oh, fair Daughter of the Flood, he said,
Worthy alone of *Jove's* imperial Bed,
Happy whoever shall those Charms possess ;
The King of Gods (nor is thy Lover less)
Invites thee to yon cooler Shades ; to shun
The scorching Rays of the Meridian Sun.
Nor shalt thou tempt the Dangers of the Grove
Alone, without a Guide ; thy Guide is *Jove*.

No

No puny Pow'r, but he whose high Command
 Is unconfin'd, who rules the Seas and Land,
 And tempers Thunder in his awful Hand.
 Oh, fly not : For she fled from his Embrace
 O'er *Lerna's* Pastures : He pursu'd the Chace
 Along the Shades of the *Lyræan* Plain ;
 At length the God, who never asks in vain,
 Involv'd with Vapours, imitating Night,
 Both Air and Earth ; and then suppress'd her Flight,
 And mingling Force with Love, enjoy'd the full
 Delight.

Mean-time the jealous *Juno*, from on high,
 Survey'd the fruitful Fields of *Arcady* ;
 And wonder'd that the Mist should over-run
 The Face of Day-light, and obscure the Sun.
 No nat'ral Cause she found, from Brooks, or Bogs,
 Or marshy Lowlands, to produce the Fogs :
 Then round the Skies she sought for *Jupiter*,
 Her faithless Husband ; but no *Jove* was there.
 Suspecting now the worst, Or I, she said,
 Am much mistaken, or am much betray'd.
 With Fury she precipitates her Flight,
 Dispels the Shadows of dissembled Night,
 And to the Day restores his native Light.
 Th' Almighty Leacher, careful to prevent
 The Consequence, foreseeing her Descent,
 Transforms his Mistress, in a trice ; and now,
 In *Io's* Place, appears a lovely Cow.
 So sleek her Skin, so faultless was her Make,
 Ev'n *Juno* did unwilling Pleasure take

To see so fair a Rival of her Love ;
 And what she was, and whence, enquir'd of *Jove* ;
 Of what fair Herd, and from what Pedigree ?
 The God, half caught, was forc'd upon a Lie,
 And said she sprung from Earth. She took the Word,
 And begg'd the beauteous Heifer of her Lord.
 What should he do ? 'twas equal Shame to *Jove*
 Or to relinquish, or betray his Love :
 Yet to refuse so slight a Gift, wou'd be
 But more t'increase his Consort's Jealousy :
 Thus Fear and Love, by turns, his Heart assail'd,
 And stronger Love had sure, at length prevail'd,
 But some faint Hope remain'd, his jealous Queen
 Had not the Mistress through the Heifer seen.
 The cautious Goddess, of her Gift possess'd,
 Yet harbour'd anxious Thoughts within her Breast ;
 As she, who knew the Falshood of her *Jove*,
 And justly fear'd some new Relapse of Love :
 Which to prevent, and to secure her Care,
 To trusty *Argus* she commits the Fair.

The Head of *Argus* (as with Stars the Skies)
 Was compass'd round, and wore an hundred Eyes.
 But two by turns their Lids in Slumber steep ;
 The rest on duty still their Station keep ;
 Nor could the total Constellation sleep. }
 Thus, ever present, to his Eyes and Mind,
 His Charge was still before him, tho' behind.
 In Fields he suffer'd her to feed by Day,
 But when the setting Sun to Night gave way,
 The captive Cow he summon'd with a Call,
 And drove her back, and ty'd her to the Stall.

On Leaves of Trees, and bitter Herbs she fed,
Heav'n was her Canopy, bare Earth her Bed ;
So hardly lodg'd ; and to digest her Food,
She drank from troubled Streams, defil'd with Mud.
Her woeful Story fain she would have told,
With Hands upheld, but had no Hands to hold.
Her Head to her ungentle Keeper bow'd,
She strove to speak, she spoke not, but she low'd :
Affrighted with the Noise, she look'd around,
And seem'd t'inquire the Author of the Sound.

Once on the Banks where often she had play'd,
(Her Father's Banks) she came, and there survey'd
Her alter'd Visage, and her branching Head ;
And starting from herself she wou'd have fled.
Her fellow Nymphs, familiar to her Eyes,
Beheld but knew her not in this Disguise :
Ev'n *Inachus* himself was ignorant,
And in his Daughter did his Daughter want:
She follow'd where her Fellows went, as she
Were still a Partner of the Company:
They stroak her Neck ; the gentle Heifer stands,
And her Neck offers to their stroaking Hands.
Her Father gave her Grass ; the Grass she took ;
And lick'd his Palms, and cast a piteous Look,
And in the Language of her Eyes, she spoke. }
She would have told her Name, and ask'd Relief,
But wanting Words, in Tears she tells her Grief.
Which, with her Foot she makes him understand,
And prints the Name of *Io* in the Sand.

Ah, wretched me ! her mournful Father cry'd ;
She, with a Sigh, to wretched me reply'd :

About her milk-white Neck, his Arms he threw,
 And wept, and then these tender Words ensue :
 And art thou she, whom I have fought around
 The World, and have at length so sadly found ?
 So found, is worse than lost : with mutual Words
 Thou answer'st not, no Voice thy Tongue affords ;
 But Sighs are deeply drawn from out thy Breast ;
 And Speech deny'd, by Lowing is express'd.
 Unknowing, I prepar'd thy bridal Bed,
 With empty Hopes of happy Issue fed.
 But now the Husband of a Herd must be
 Thy Mate, and bell'wing Sons thy Progeny.
 Oh, where I mortal, Death might bring Relief ;
 But now my Godhead but extends my Grief,
 Prolongs my Woes, of which no End I see,
 And makes me curse my Immortality !
 More had he said, but fearful of her Stay,
 The starry Guardian drove his Charge away,
 To some fresh Pasture, on a hilly Height
 He fate himself, and kept her still in sight.

*The Eyes of ARGUS transformed into a
 Peacock's Train.*

Now *Jove* no longer cou'd her Suff'rings bear ;
 But call'd in haste his airy Messenger,
 The Son of *Maia*, with severe Decree,
 To kill the Keeper, and to set her free.
 With all his Harness soon the God was sped,
 His flying Hat was fastned on his Head,

Wings

Wing on his Heels were hung, and in his Hand
He holds the Vertue of the Snaky Wand.
The liquid Air his moving Pinions wound,
And in the Moment, shoot him on the Ground.
Before he came in sight, the crafty God
His Wings dismiss'd, but still retain'd his Rod :
That sleep-procuring Wand wise *Hermes* took,
But made it seem to fight a Shepherd's Hook.
With this he did a Herd of Goats controul,
Which by the Way he met, and slyly stole.
Clad like a Country Swain, he pip'd and sung,
And playing drove his jolly Troop along.

With Pleasure, *Argus* the Musician heeds ;
But wonders much at those new vocal Reeds.
And whosoe'er thou art, my Friend, said he,
Up hither drive thy Goats, and play by me ;
This Hill hath Browze for them, and Shade for thee. }
The God, who was with ease induc'd to climb,
Began Discourse to pass away the Time ;
And still betwixt, his tuneful Pipe he plies ;
And watch'd his Hour to close the Keeper's Eyes.
With much ado, he partly kept awake,
Not suff'ring all his Eyes Repose to take ;
And ask'd the Stranger, who did Reeds invent,
And whence began so rare an Instrument ?

The Transformation of SYRINX into Reeds.

Then *Hermes* thus : A Nymph of late there was
Whose heav'nly Form her Fellows did surpass.

The Pride and Joy of fair *Arcadia's* Plains,
 Belov'd by Deities, ador'd by Swains ;
Syrinx her Name, by *Sylvans* oft pursu'd,
 As oft she did the lustful Gods delude ;
 The rural and the woodland Pow'rs disdain'd ;
 With *Cynthia* hunted, and her Rites maintain'd.
 Like *Phæbe* clad, even *Phæbe's* self she seems,
 So tall, so streight, such well-proportion'd Limbs,
 The nicest Eye did no Distinction know,
 But that the Goddess bore a golden Bow :
 Distinguish'd thus, the Sight she cheated too.
 Descending from *Lycæus*, *Pan* admires
 The matchless Nymph, and burns with new Desires.
 A Crown of Pine upon his Head he wore,
 And thus began her Pity to implore ;
 But e'er he thus began, she took her Flight
 So swift, she was already out of Sight.
 Nor stay'd to hear the Courtship of the God,
 But bent her Course to *Ladon's* gentle Flood ;
 There by the River stopt, and tir'd before,
 Relief from Water Nymphs her Prayers implore.

Now while the lustful God, with speedy Pace
 Just thought to strain her in a strict Embrace,
 He fills his Arms with Reeds, new rising on the Place.
 And while he sighs, his ill Success to find,
 The tender Canes were shaken by the Wind,
 And breath'd a mournful Air, unheard before ;
 That much surprizing *Pan*, yet pleas'd him more.
 Admiring this new Musick, Thou, he said,
 Who canst not be the Partner of my Bed,

At least shall be the Confort of my Mind,
And often, often to my Lips be join'd.
He form'd the Reeds, proportion'd as they are,
Unequal in their Length, and wax'd with Care,
They still retain the Name of his ungrateful Fair.

While *Hermes* pip'd, and sung, and told his Tale,
The Keeper's winking Eyes began to fail,
And drowsie Slumber on the Lids to creep,
Till all the Watchman was at length asleep.
Then soon the God his Voice and Song suppress'd,
And with his pow'rful Rod confirm'd his Rest:
Without Delay his crooked Faulchion drew,
And at one fatal Stroke the Keeper ilew.
Down from the Rock fell the dissever'd Head,
Opening its Eyes in Death; and falling, bled;
And mark'd the Passage with a Crimson Trail:
Thus *Argus* lies in Pieces, cold and pale;
And all his hundred Eyes, with all their Light,
Are clos'd at once, in one perpetual Night.
These *Juno* takes, that they no more may fail,
And spreads them in her Peacock's gaudy Tail.

Impatient to revenge her injur'd Bed,
She wreaks her Anger on her Rival's Head;
With Furies frights her from her native Home,
And drives her gadding, round the World to roam;
Nor ceas'd her Madness, and her Flight, before
She touch'd the Limits of the *Pharian* Shore.
At length, arriving on the Banks of *Nile*,
Wearied with Length of Ways, and worn with Toil,
She laid her down; and leaning on her Knees,
Invok'd the Cause of all her Miseries:

And

And cast her languishing Regards above,
For Help from Heav'n, and her ungrateful *Jove*.
She sigh'd, she wept, she low'd, 'twas all she cou'd ;
And with Unkindness seem'd to tax the God.
Last, with an humble Pray'r, she begg'd Repose,
Or Death, at least, to finish all her Woes.
Jove heard her Vows, and with a flatt'ring Look,
In her Behalf, to jealous *Juno* spoke.
He cast his Arms about her Neck, and said,
Dame, rest secure ; no more thy nuptial Bed
This Nymph shall violate ; by *Styx* I swear,
And every Oath that binds the Thunderer.
The Goddess was pleas'd ; and at the Word
Was *Io* to her former Shape restor'd.
The rugged Hair began to fall away ;
The Sweetness of her Eyes did only stay,
Tho' not so large ; her crooked Horns decrease ;
The Wideness of her Jaws and Nostrils cease ;
Her Hoofs to Hands return in little Space,
The five long taper Fingers take their Place,
And nothing of the Heifer now is seen,
Beside the native Whiteness of the Skin.
Erected on her Feet she walks again,
And two the Duty of the four sustain.
She tries her Tongue ; her Silence softly breaks,
And fears her former Lowings when she speaks :
A Goddess now, through all th' *Aegyptian* State,
And serv'd by Priests who in white Linen wait.
Her Son was *Epaphus*, at length believ'd
The Son of *Jove*, and as a God receiv'd ;

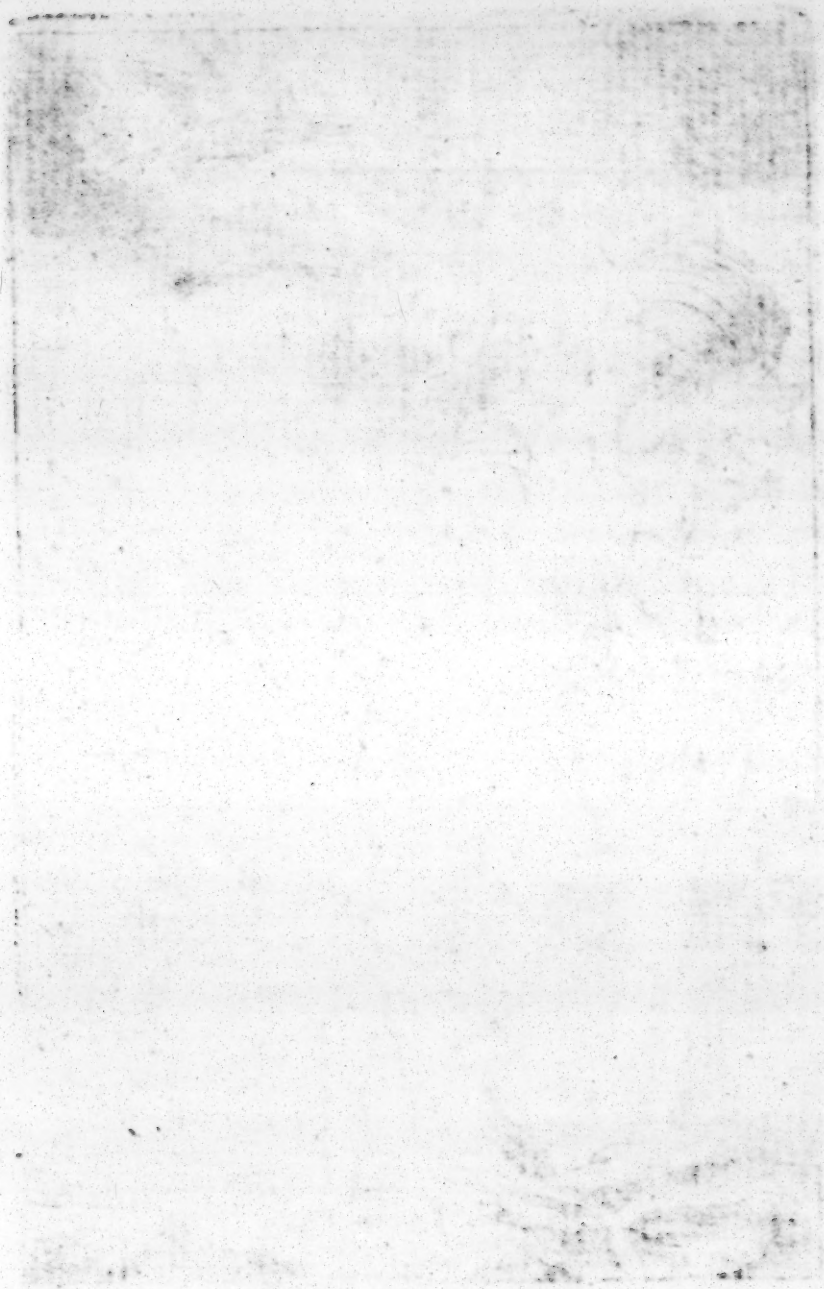
With

With Sacrifice ador'd, and publick Prayers,
A common Temple with his Mother Shares.
Equal in Years, and rival in Renown
With *Epaphus*, the youthful *Phaeton* }
Like Honour claims; and boasts his Sire the Sun.
His haughty Looks, and his assuming Air,
The Son of *Isis* could no longer bear:
'Thou tak'st thy Mother's Word too far, said he,
And hast usurp'd thy boasted Pedigree.
Go, base Pretender to a borrow'd Name.
Thus tax'd, he blush'd with Anger and with Shame;
But Shame repress'd his Rage: the daunted Youth
Soon seeks his Mother, and enquires the Truth:
Mother, said he, this Infamy was thrown
By *Epaphus* on you, and me your Son.
He spoke in publick, told it to my Face,
Nor durst I vindicate the dire Disgrace:
Even I, the bold, the sensible of Wrong,
Restrain'd by Shame was forc'd to hold my Tongue.
To hear an open Slander, is a Curse;
But not to find an Answer is a worse.
If I am Heav'n-begot, assert your Son
By some sure Sign, and make my Father known, }
To right my Honour, and redeem your own.
He said, and saying cast his Arms about
Her Neck, and begg'd her to resolve the Doubt.
'Tis hard to judge if *Clymenè* were mov'd
More by his Pray'r, whom she so dearly lov'd,
Or more with Fury fir'd, to find her Name
Traduc'd, and made the Sport of common Fame.

She

She stretch'd her Arms to Heav'n, and fix'd her Eyes
On that fair Planet that adorns the Skies :
Now by those Beams, said she, whose holy Fires
Consume my Breast, and kindle my Desires ;
By him, who sees us both, and cheers our Sight,
By him, the public Minister of Light,
I swear that *Sun* begot thee ; if I lie,
Let him his chearful Influence deny ;
Let him no more this perjur'd Creature see ;
And shine on all the World but only me.
If still you doubt your Mother's Innocence,
His Eastern Mansion is not far from hence ;
With little Pains you to his *Leve* go,
And from himself your Parentage may know.
With Joy th' ambitious Youth his Mother heard,
And eager, for the Journey, soon prepar'd.
He longs the World beneath him to survey ;
To guide the Chariot, and to give the Day.
From *Meroe's* burning Sands he bends his Course,
Nor less in *India* feels his Father's Force ;
His Travel urging, till he came in sight,
And saw the Palace by the purple Light.

The End of the First Book.

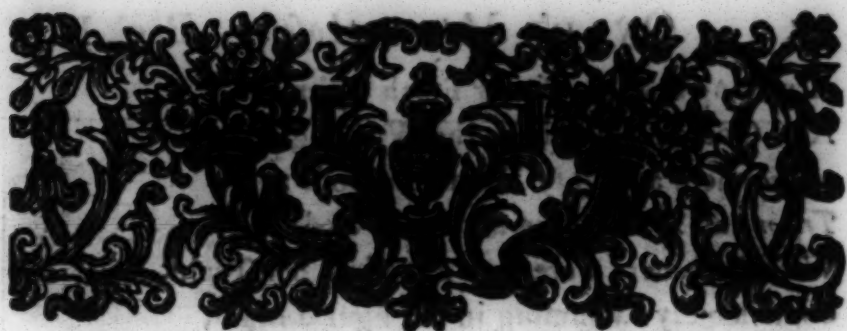




To Her Grace of
Dutcheſs of Roxburghe



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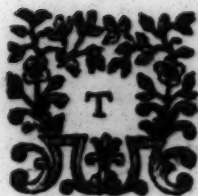


O V I D's
METAMORPHOSES.

BOOK II.

Translated by Mr. ADDISON.

The Story of PHAETON.



THE Sun's bright Palace, on high Columns
rais'd,
With burnish'd Gold and flaming Jewels
blaz'd;
The folding Gates diffus'd a silver Light,
And with a milder Gleam refresh'd the Sight;
Of polish'd Iv'ry was the Cov'ring wrought:
The Matter vie'd not with the Sculptor's Thought,
For in the Portal was display'd on high
(The Work of *Vulcan*) a fictitious Sky;

A waving

A waving Sea th' inferior Earth embrac'd,
 And Gods and Goddeffes the Waters grac'd.
Egeon here a mighty Whale bestrode;
Triton and *Proteus* (the deceiving God)
 With *Doris* here were carv'd, and all her Train,
 Some loosely swimming in the figur'd Main,
 While some on Rocks their dropping Hair divide,
 And some on Fishes through the Waters glide:
 Tho' various Features did the Sisters grace,
 A Sister's Likeness was in ev'ry Face.
 On Earth a diff'rent Landskip courts the Eyes,
 Men, Towns, and Beasts in distant Prospects rise,
 And Nymphs, and Streams, and Woods, and rural Deities.
 O'er all, the Heav'ns refulgent Image shines;
 On either Gate were fix engraven Signs.

Here *Phaeton*, still gaining on th' Ascent,
 To his suspected Father's Palace went,
 'Till pressing forward through the bright Abode,
 He saw at Distance the illustrious God:
 He saw at Distance, or the dazzling Light
 Had flash'd too strongly on his aching Sight.

The God sits high, exalted on a Throne
 Of blazing Gems, with purple Garments on;
 The Hours, in order rang'd on either Hand,
 And Days, and Months, and Years, and Ages stand.
 Here Spring appears, with flow'ry Chaplets bound.
 Here Summer, in her wheaten Garland crown'd;
 Here Autumn the rich trodden Grapes besmear;
 And hoary Winter shivers in the Reer.

Phaebus

Phæbus beheld the Youth from off his Throne,
That Eye, which looks on All was fix'd in One.
He saw the Boy's Confusion in his Face,
Surpriz'd at all the Wonders of the Place ;
And cries aloud, " What wants my Son ? for know
" My Son thou art, and I must call thee so.

" Light of the World, the trembling Youth replies,
" Illustrious Parent ! since you don't despise
" The Parent's Name, some certain Token give,
" That I may *Clymenè*'s proud Boast believe, }
" Nor longer under false Reproaches grieve.

The tender Sire was touch'd with what he said,
And flung the Blaze of Glories from his Head,
And bid the Youth advance : " My Son, said he,
" Come to thy Father's Arms ! for *Clymenè*
" Has told thee true ; a Parent's Name I own,
" And deem thee worthy to be call'd my Son.
" As a sure Proof, make some Request, and I,
" Whate'er it be, with that Request comply ;
" By *Syx* I swear, whose Waves are hid in Night,
" And roul impervious to my piercing Sight."

The Youth transported, asks, without Delay,
To guide the Sun's bright Chariot for a Day.

The God repented of the Oath he took,
For Anguish thrice his radiant Head he shook ;
" My Son, says he, some other Proof require,
" Rash was my Promise, rash is thy Desire.
" I'd fain deny this Wish, which thou hast made,
" Or, what I can't deny, wou'd fain dissuade.
" Too vast and hazardous the Task appears,
" Nor suited to thy Strength, nor to thy Years.

" Thy

“ Thy Lot is mortal, but thy Wishes fly
“ Beyond the Province of Mortality :
“ There is not one of all the Gods that dares
“ (However skill'd in other great Affairs)
“ To mount the burning Axle-tree but I ;
“ Not *Jove* himself, the Ruler of the Sky,
“ That hurls the three-fork'd Thunder from above,
“ Dares try his Strength ; yet who so strong as *Jove* ?
“ The Steeds climb up the first Ascent with Pain,
“ And when the middle Firmament they gain,
“ If downward from the Heav'ns my Head I bow,
“ And see the Earth and Ocean hang below,
“ Ev'n I am seiz'd with Horror and Affright,
“ And my own Heart misgives me at the Sight.
“ A mighty Downfal steeps the Ev'ning Stage,
“ And stedd'ed Reins must curb the Horses Rage.
“ *Thetys* herself has fear'd to see me driv'n
“ Down headlong from the Precipice of Heav'n.
“ Besides, consider what impetuous Force
“ Turns Stars and Planets in a diff'rent Course.
“ I steer against their Motions ; nor am I
“ Borne back by all the Current of the Sky.
“ But how cou'd you resist the Orbs that roul
“ In adverse Whirls, and stem the rapid Pole ?
“ But you, perhaps, may hope for pleasing Woods,
“ And stately Domes, and Cities fill'd with Gods ;
“ While through a thousand Snares your Progress lies,
“ Where Forms of starry Monsters stock the Skies :
“ For shou'd you hit the doubtful Way aright,
“ The Bull with stooping Horns stands opposite ;
“ Next

" Next him the bright *Hæmonian* Bow is strung,
" And next, the Lion's grinning Visage hung :
" The Scorpion's Claws here clasp a wide Extent ;
" And here the Crab's in lesser Clasps are bent.
" Nor wou'd you find it easy to compose
" The mettled Steeds, when from their Nostrils flows }
" The scorching Fire, that in their Entrails glows. }
" Ev'n I their head-strong Fury scarce restrain,
" When they grow warm and restif to the Rein.
" Let not my Son a fatal Gift require,
" But, Oh ! in time recall your rash Desire ;
" You ask a Gift that may your Parent tell,
" Let these my Fears your Parentage reveal ;
" And learn a Father from a Father's Care :
" Look on my Face ; or if my Heart lay bare, }
" Cou'd you but look, you'd read the Father there. }
" Chuse out a Gift from Seas, or Earth, or Skies,
" For open to your Wish all Nature lies,
" Only decline this one unequal Task,
" For 'tis a Mischief, not a Gift, you ask.
" You ask a real Mischief, *Phaeton* :
" Nay, hang not thus about my Neck, my Son :
" I grant your Wish, and *Styx* has heard my Voice,
" Chuse what you will, but make a wiser Choice."

Thus did the God th' unwary Youth advise ;
But he still longs to travel through the Skies.
When the fond Father (for in vain he pleads)
At length to the *Vulcanian* Chariot leads,
A golden Axle did the Work uphold,
Gold was the Beam, the Wheels were orb'd with Gold.

The

The Spokes in Rows of Silver pleas'd the Sight,
The Seat with party-colour'd Gems was bright ; }
Apollo shin'd amid the Glare of Light.
The Youth with secret Joy the Work surveys,
When now the Moon disclos'd her purple Rays ;
The Stars were fled, for *Lucifer* had chas'd
The Stars away, and fled himself at last.
Soon as the Father saw the rosy Morn,
And the Moon shining with a blunter Horn,
He bid the nimble *Hours*, without Delay,
Bring forth the Steeds ; the nimble *Hours* obey :
From their full Racks the gen'rous Steeds retire,
Dropping ambrosial Foams, and snorting Fire.
Still anxious for his Son, the God of Day,
To make him proof against the burning Ray,
His Temples with celestial Ointment wet,
Of sov'reign Virtue to repel the Heat ;
Then fix'd the beamy Circle on his Head,
And fetch'd a deep forboding Sigh, and said,
" Take this at least, this last Advice, my Son,
" Keep a stiff Rein, and move but gently on :
" The Coursers of themselves will run too fast,
" Your Art must be to moderate their Haste.
" Drive 'em not on directly through the Skies,
" But where the *Zodiac's* winding Circle lies,
" Along the midmost *Zone* ; but sally forth
" Nor to the distant South, nor stormy North.
" The Horses' Hoofs a beaten Track will show,
" But neither mount too high, nor sink too low ;
" That no new Fires, or Heav'n or Earth infect ;
" Keep the mid Way, the middle Way is best.

" Nor

" Nor, where in radiant Folds the Serpent twines,
 " Direct your Course, nor where the Altar shines.
 " Shun both Extreame ; the rest let Fortune guide,
 " And better for thee than thyself provide !
 " See, while I speak, the Shades disperse away,
 " *Aurora* gives the Promise of a Day ;
 " I'm call'd, nor can I make a longer Stay. }
 " Snatch up the Reins ; or still th' Attempt forsake,
 " And not my Chariot, but my Counsel take,
 " While yet securely on the Earth you stand ;
 " Nor touch the Horses with too rash a Hand.
 " Let me alone to light the World, while you
 " Enjoy those Beams which you may safely view."

He spoke in vain ; the Youth with active Heat
 And sprightly Vigour vaults into the Seat ;
 And joys to hold the Reins, and fondly gives
 Those Thanks his Father with Remorse receives.

Mean while the restless Horses neigh'd aloud,
 Breathing out Fire, and pawing where they stood.
Tethys, not knowing what had past, gave way,
 And all the Waste of Heav'n before 'em lay.
 They spring together out, and swiftly bear
 The flying Youth thro' Clouds and yielding Air,
 With wingy Speed outstrip the Eastern Wind,
 And leave the Breezes of the Morn behind.
 The Youth was light, nor could he fill the Seat.
 Or poise the Chariot with its wonted Weight :
 But as at Sea th' unballast'd Vessel rides,
 Cast to and fro, the Sport of Winds and Tides ;
 So in the bounding Chariot tofs'd on high,
 The Youth is hurry'd headlong through the Sky.

Soon as the Steeds perceive it, they forsake
 Their stated Course, and leave the beaten Track.
 The Youth was in a Maze, nor did he know
 Which Way to turn the Reins, or where to go ;
 Nor would the Horses, had he known, obey.
 Then the Sev'n Stars first felt *Apollo's* Ray,
 And wish'd to dip in the forbidden Sea. }
 The folded Serpent next the frozen Pole,
 Stiff and benumb'd before, began to roll,
 And rag'd with inward Heat, and threaten'd War,
 And shot a redder Light from ev'ry Star ;
 Nay, and 'tis said *Bootes* too, that fain
 Thou wou'dst have fled, tho' cumber'd with thy Wane.

Th' unhappy Youth then bending down his Head,
 Saw Earth and Ocean far beneath him spread.
 His Colour chang'd, he startled at the Sight,
 And his Eyes darken'd by too great a Light.
 Now cou'd he wish the fiery Steeds untry'd,
 His Birth obscure, and his Request deny'd :
 Now wou'd he *Merops* for his Father own,
 And quit his boasted Kindred to the Sun.

So fares the Pilot, when the Ship is tost
 In troubled Seas, and all its Steerage lost,
 He gives her to the Winds, and in Despair,
 Seeks his last Refuge in the Gods and Pray'r.

What cou'd he do ? his Eyes, if backward cast,
 Find a long Path he had already past ;
 If forward, still a longer Path they find :
 Both he compares, and measures in his Mind ;
 And sometimes casts an Eye upon the East,
 And sometimes looks on the forbidden West,

The Horses' Names he knew not in the Fright,
Nor wou'd he loose the Reins, nor cou'd he hold 'em
right.

Now all the Horrors of the Heav'ns he spies,
And monst'rous Shadows of prodigious Size,
That, deck'd with Stars, lie scatter'd o'er the Skies. }

There is a Place above, where *Scorpio* bent
In Tail and Arms surrounds a vast Extent ;
In a wide Circuit of the Heav'ns he shines,
And fills the Space of two Cœlestial Signs.
Soon as the Youth beheld him vex'd with Heat
Brandish his Sting, and in his Poison sweat,
Half dead with sudden Fear, he dropt the Reins ;
The Horses felt 'em loose upon their Mains,
And, flying out through all the Plains above,
Ran uncontroul'd where-e're their Fury drove ;
Rush'd on the Stars, and through a pathless Way
Of unknown Regions hurry'd on the Day.
And now above, and now below they flew,
And near the Earth the burning Chariot drew.

The Clouds disperse in Fumes, the wond'ring Moon
Behold her Brother's Steeds beneath her own ;
The Highlands smoak, cleft by the piercing Rays,
Or, clad with Woods, in their own Fewel blaze.
Next o'er the Plains, where ripen'd Harvests grow,
The running Conflagration spreads below.
But these are trivial Ills : whole Cities burn,
And peopled Kingdoms into Ashes turn.

The Mountains kindle as the Car draws near,
Athos and *Tmolus* red with Fires appear ;

Oeagrian Hæmus (then a single Name)
 And Virgin *Helicon* increase the Flame ;
Taurus and *Cetè* glare amid the Sky,
 And *Ida*, spight of all her Fountains, dry.
Eryx, and *Othrys*, and *Cithæron*, glow,
 And *Rhodope* no longer cloath'd in Snow ;
 High *Pindus*, *Mimas*, and *Parnassus*, sweat,
 And *Ætna* rages with redoubled Heat.
 Ev'n *Scythia*, thro' her hoary Regions warm'd,
 In vain with all her native Frost was arm'd.
 Cover'd with Flames, the tow'ring *Appenine*,
 And *Caucasus*, and proud *Olympus*, shine ;
 And, where the long-extended *Alps* aspire,
 Now stands a huge continu'd Range of Fire.

Th' astonisht Youth, where-e'er his Eyes could turn,
 Beheld the Universe around him burn :
 The World was in a Blaze ; nor could he bear
 The sultry Vapours and the scorching Air,
 Which from below, as from a Furnace, flow'd ;
 And now the Axle-tree beneath him glow'd :
 Lost in the whirling Clouds that round him broke,
 And white with Ashes, hov'ring in the Smoke.
 He flew where-e'er the Horses drove, nor knew
 Whither the Horses drove, or where he flew.

'Twas then, they say, the swarthy *Moer* begun
 To change his Hue, and blacken in the Sun.
 Then *Libya* first, of all her Moisture drain'd,
 Became a barren Waste, a Wild of Sand.
 The Water-Nymphs lament their empty Urns,
Bæotia, robb'd of Silver *Dirce*, mourns,

Corymb

Corinth *Pyrene*'s wasted Spring bewails,
And *Argos* grieves whilst *Anymone* fails.

The Floods are drain'd from ev'ry distant Coast,
Ev'n *Tanais*, tho' fix'd in Ice, was lost.

Enrag'd *Caicus* and *Lycormas* roar,

And *Xanthus* fated to be burnt once more.

The fam'd *Mæander*, that unweary'd strays

Thro' mazy Windings, smoaks in ev'ry Maze.

From his lov'd *Babylon* *Euphrates* flies;

The big-swoln *Ganges* and the *Danube* rise

In thick'ning Fumes, and darken half the Skies.

In Flames *Ismenos* and the *Phasis* roll'd,

And *Tagus* floating in his melted Gold.

The Swans, that on *Cayster* often try'd

Their tuneful Songs, now sung their last and dy'd.

The frighted *Nile* ran off, and under Ground

Conceal'd his Head, nor can it yet be found:

His sev'n divided Currents all are dry,

And where they roll'd, sev'n gaping Trenches lye:

No more the *Rhine* or *Rhone* their Course maintain,

Nor *Tiber*, of his promis'd Empire vain.

The Ground, deep-cleft, admits the dazzling Ray,
And startles *Pluto* with the Flash of Day.

The Seas shrink in, and to the Sight disclose

Wide naked Plains, where once their Billows rose;

Their Rocks are all discover'd, and increase

The Number of the scatter'd *Cyclades*.

The Fish in Sholes about the Bottom creep,

Nor longer dares the crooked Dolphin leap:

Gasping for Breath, th' unshapen *Phocæ* die,

And on the boiling Wave extended lie.

Nereus, and *Doris* with her Virgin Train,
 Seek out the last Recesses of the Main;
 Beneath unfathomable Depths they faint,
 And secret in their gloomy Caverns pant,
 Stern *Neptune* thrice above the Waves upheld
 His Face, and thrice was by the Flames repell'd.

The *Earth* at length, on ev'ry Side embrac'd
 With scalding Seas that floated round her Waste,
 When now she felt the Springs and Rivers come,
 And crowd within the Hollow of her Womb,
 Up-lifted to the Heav'ns her blasted Head,
 And clapt her Hand upon her Brows, and said;
 (But first, impatient of the sultry Heat,
 Sunk deeper down, and sought a cooler Seat :)

" If you, great King of Gods, my Death approve,

" And I deserve it, let me die by *Jove*;

" If I must perish by the Force of Fire,

" Let me transfix'd with Thunderbolts expire.

" See, whilst I speak, my Breath the Vapours choak,
 (For now her Face lay wrapt in Clouds of Smoke)

" See my sing'd Hair, behold my faded Eye,

" And wither'd Face, where Heaps of Cinders lie !

" And does the Plough for this my Body tear ?

" This the Reward for all the Fruits I bear,

" Tortur'd with Rakes, and harrass'd all the Year ?

" That Herbs for Cattle daily I renew,

" And Food for Man, and Frankincense for you ?

" But grant me guilty ; what has *Neptune* done ?

" Why are his Waters boiling in the Sun ?

" The wavy Empire, which by Lot was given,

" Why does it waste, and further shrink from Heaven ?

" If

“ If I nor he your Pity can provoke,
“ See your own Heav’ns, the Heav’ns begin to smoke !
“ Shou’d once the Sparkles catch those bright Abodes,
“ Destruction seizes on the Heav’ns and Gods ;
“ *Atlas* becomes unequal to his Freight,
“ And almost faints beneath the glowing Weight.
“ If Heav’n, and Earth, and Sea, together burn,
“ All must again into their Chaos turn.
“ Apply some speedy Cure, prevent our Fate,
“ And succour Nature, ere it be too late.”

She ceas’d, for choak’d with Vapours round her spread,
Down to the deepest Shades she sunk her Head.

Jove call’d to witness ev’ry Pow’r above,
And ev’n the God, whose Son the Chariot drove,
That what he acts he is compell’d to do,
Or universal Ruin must ensue.
Strait he ascends the high Ætherial Throne,
From whence he us’d to dart his Thunder down,
From whence his Show’rs and Storms he us’d to pour,
But now cou’d meet with neither Storm nor Show’r.
Then, aiming at the Youth, with lifted Hand,
Full at his Head he hurl’d the fork’y Brand,
In dreadful Thund’rings. Thus th’ Almighty Sire
Suppress’d the Raging of the Fires with Fire.

At once from Life and from the Chariot driv’n,
Th’ ambitious Boy fell thunder-struck from Heav’n.
The Horses started with a sudden Bound,
And flung the Reins and Chariot to the Ground :
The studded Harness from their Necks they broke,
Here fell a Wheel, and here a Silver Spoke,

Here were the Beam and Axle torn away;
 And, scatter'd o'er the Earth the shining Fragments lay.
 The breathless *Phaeton*, with flaming Hair,
 Shot from the Chariot, like a falling Star,
 That in a Summer's Ev'ning from the Top
 Of Heav'n drops down, or seems at least to drop;
 'Till on the *Po* his blasted Corps was hurl'd,
 Far from his Country, in the Western World.

PHAETON's Sisters transformed into Trees.

The *Latian* Nymphs came round him, and, amaz'd,
 On the dead Youth, transfix'd with Thunder, gaz'd;
 And, whilst yet sinoaking from the Bolt he lay,
 His shatter'd Body to a Tomb convey,
 And o'er the Tomb an Epitaph devise:
 " Here he, who drove the Sun's bright Chariot, lies;
 " His Father's fiery Steeds he cou'd not guide,
 " But in the glorious Enterprize he dy'd.

Apollo hid his Face, and pin'd for Grief,
 And, if the Story may deserve Belief,
 The Space of one whole Day is said to run,
 From Morn to wonted Eye without a Sun:
 The burning Ruins, with a fainter Ray,
 Supply the Sun, and counterfeit a Day,
 A Day that still did Nature's Face disclose:
 This Comfort from the mighty Mischief rose.

But *Clymene*, enrag'd with Grief, laments,
 And as her Grief inspires, her Passion vents:
 Wild for her Son, and frantick in her Woes,
 With Hair dishevell'd round the World she goes,

To seek where-e'er his Body might be cast ;
'Till, on the Borders of the *Po*, at last
The Name inscrib'd on the new Tomb appears.
The dear dear Name she bathes in flowing Tears,
Hangs o'er the Tomb, unable to depart,
And hugs the Marble to her throbbing Heart.

Her Daughters too lament, and sigh and mourn,
(A fruitless Tribute to their Brother's Urn)
And beat their naked Bosoms, and complain,
And call aloud for *Phaeton* in vain :
All the long Night their mournful Watch they keep,
And all the Day stand round the Tomb and weep.

Four Times revolving the full Moon return'd,
So long the Mother and the Daughters mourn'd :
When now the eldest, *Phaethusa*, strove
To rest her weary Limbs, but could not move ;
Lampetia would have help'd her, but she found
Herself with-held, and rooted to the Ground :
A third in wild Affliction, as she grieves,
Would rend her Hair, but fills her Hands with Leaves ;
One sees her Thighs transform'd, another views
Her Arms shot out, and branching into Boughs.
And now their Legs, and Breasts, and Bodies stood
Crusted with Bark, and hard'ning into Wood ;
But still above were female Heads display'd,
And Mouths, that call'd the Mother to their Aid.
What cou'd alas ! the weeping Mother do ?
From this to that with eager Haste she flew,
And kiss'd her sprouting Daughters as they grew. }
She tears the Bark that to each Body cleaves,
And from their verdant Fingers strips the Leaves :

The Blood came trickling, where she tore away
 The Leaves and Bark : The Maids were heard to say,
 " Forbear, mistaken Parent, Oh ! forbear ;
 " A wounded Daughter in each Tree you tear ;
 " Farewel for ever." Here the Bark increas'd,
 Clos'd on their Faces, and their Words suppress'd.

The new-made Trees in Tears of Amber run,
 Which, harden'd into Value by the Sun,
 D'ill for ever on the Streams below :
 The limpid Streams their radiant Treasure show,
 Mixt in the Sand ; whence the rich Drops convey'd
 Shine in the Dress of the bright *Latian* Maid.

The Transformation of CYCNUS into a Swan.

Cygnus beheld the Nymphs transform'd, ally'd
 To their dead Brother on the mortal Side,
 In Friendship and Affection nearer bound,
 He left the Cities and the Realms he own'd,
 Through pathless Fields and lonely Shores to range,
 And Woods made thicker by the Sister's Change.
 Whilst here, within the dismal Gloom alone,
 The melancholy Monarch made his Moan,
 His Voice was lessen'd as he try'd to speak,
 And issu'd through a long-extended Neck ;
 His Hair transforms to Down, his Fingers meet
 In skinny Films, and shape his oary Feet ;
 From both his Sides the Wings and Feathers break ;
 And from his Mouth proceeds a blunted Beak :
 All *Cygnus* now into a Swan was turn'd,
 Who still rememb'ring how his Kinsman burn'd,

To

To solitary Pools and Lakes retires,
And loves the Waters as oppos'd to Fires.

Mean-while *Apoll* in a gloomy Shade
(The native Lustre of his Brows decay'd)
Indulging Sorrow, sickens at the Sight
Of his own Sunshine, and abhors the Light :
The hidden Grievs, that in his Bosom rise,
Sadden his Looks, and overcast his Eyes,
As when some dusky Orb obstructs his Ray,
And fullies in a dim Eclipse the Day.

Now secretly with inward Grievs he pin'd,
Now warm Resentments to his Grievs he join'd,
And now renounc'd his Office to Mankind. }

" E're since the Birth of Time, said he, I've borne

" A long ungrateful Toil, without Return ;

" Let now some other manage, if he dare,

" The fiery Steeds, and mount the burning Car ;

" Or, if none else, let *Jove* his Fortune try,

" And learn to lay his murd'ring Thunder by ;

" Then will he own, perhaps, but own too late,

" My Son deserv'd not so severe a Fate."

The Gods stand round him as he mourns, and pray

He would resume the Conduct of the Day,

Nor let the World be lost in endless Night :

Jove too himself descending from his Height,

Excuses what had happen'd, and intreats,

Majestically mixing Pray'rs and Threats.

Prevail'd upon at length, again he took

The harness'd Steeds, that still with Horror shook,

And plies 'em with the Lash, and whips 'em on,

And as he whips, upbraids 'em with his Son.

The Story of CALISTO.

The Day was settled in its Course ; and *Jove*
Walk'd the wide Circuit of the Heavens above,
To search if any Cracks or Flaws were made ;
But all was safe : The Earth he then survey'd,
And cast an Eye on ev'ry diff'rent Coast,
And every Land ; but on *Arcadia* most.
Her Fields he cloath'd, and chear'd her blasted Face
With running Fountains, and with springing Grass.
No Tracks of Heav'n's destructive Fire remain,
The Fields and Woods revive, and Nature smiles again.

But as the God walk'd to and fro the Earth,
And rais'd the Plants, and gave the Spring its Birth,
By chance a fair *Arcadian* Nymph he view'd,
And felt the lovely Charmer in his Blood.
The Nymph nor spun nor dress'd with artful Pride,
Her vest was gather'd up, her Hair was ty'd ;
Now in her Hand a slender Spear she bore,
Now a light Quiver on her Shoulders wore ;
To chaste *Diana* from her Youth inclin'd,
The sprightly Warriors of the Wood she join'd.
Diana too the gentle Huntress lov'd,
Nor was there one of all the Nymphs that rov'd
O'er *Menalus*, amid the maiden Throng,
More favour'd once ; but Favour lasts not long.

The Sun now shone in all its Strength, and drove
The heated Virgin panting to a Grove ;
The Grove around a grateful Shadow cast :
She dropt her Arrows, and her Bow unbrac'd ;

She

She flung herself on the cool grassy Bed ;
And on the painted Quiver rais'd her Head,
Jove saw the charming Huntress unprepar'd,
Stretch'd on the verdant Turf without a Guard.

" Here I am safe, he cries, from *Juno's* Eye ;

" Or should my jealous Queen the Theft descry,

" Yet would I venture on a Theft like This,

" And stand her Rage for such, for such a Bliss !"

Diana's Shape and Habit strait he took,

Softened his Brows, and smooth'd his awful Look,

And mildly in a Female Accent spoke. }

" How fares my Girl ? How went the Morning Chace ?"

To whom the Virgin, starting from the Grass,

" All hail, bright Deity, whom I prefer

" To *Jove* himself, tho' *Jove* himself were here."

The God was nearer than she thought, and heard
Well-pleas'd himself before himself prefer'd.

He then salutes her with a warm Embrace ;
And, ere she half had told the Morning Chace,
With Love inflam'd, and eager on his Bliss,
Smother'd her Words, and stopp'd her with a Kiss ;
His Kisses with unwonted Ardour glow'd,
Nor could *Diana's* Shape conceal the God.
The Virgin did whate'er a Virgin cou'd ;
(Sure *Juno* must have pardon'd, had she view'd)
With all her Might against his Force she strove ;
But how can mortal Maids contend with *Jove* ?

Possess'd at length of what his Heart desir'd,
Back to his Heav'ns th' exulting God retir'd.
The lovely Huntress rising from the Grass,
With down-cast Eyes, and with a blushing Face,

By Shame confounded, and by Fear disinay'd,
 Flew from the Covert of the guilty Shade,
 And almost, in the Tumult of her Mind,
 Left her forgotten Bow and Shafts behind.

But now *Diana*, with a sprightly Train
 Of quiver'd Virgins, bounding o'er the Plain,
 Call'd to the Nymph; the Nymph began to fear
 A second Fraud, a *Jove* disguis'd in her;
 But, when she saw the Syfter Nymphs, suppress'd
 Her rising Fears, and mingled with the rest.

How in the Look does conscious Guilt appear!
 Slowly she mov'd, and loiter'd in the Rear;
 Nor lightly tripp'd, nor by the Goddess ran,
 As once she us'd, the foremost of the Train.
 Her Looks were flush'd, and sullen was her Mien,
 That sure the Virgin Goddess (had she been
 Aught but a Virgin) must the Guilt have seen. }
 'Tis said the Nymphs saw all, and guess'd aright:
 And now the Moon had nine Times lost her Light,
 When *Dian*, fainting in the mid-day Beams,
 Found a cool Covert and refreshing Streams,
 That in soft Murmurs thro' the Forest flow'd,
 And a smooth Bed of shining Gravel show'd.

A Covert so obscure, and Streams so clear,
 The Goddess prais'd: "And now no Spies are near,
 "Let's strip, my gentle Maids, and wash, she cries."
 Pleas'd with the Motion, ev'ry Maid complies;
 Only the blushing Huntress stood confus'd,
 And form'd Delays, and her Delays excus'd;
 In vain excus'd: her Fellows round her press'd,
 And the reluctant Nymph by Force undress'd,

The

The naked Huntress all her Shame reveal'd,
In vain her Hands the pregnant Womb conceal'd;
" Begone ! the Goddess cries with stern Disdain,
" Begone ! nor dare the hallow'd Stream to stain :"
She fled, for ever banish'd from the Train. }

This *Juno* heard, who long had watch'd her Time
To punish the detested Rival's Crime ;
The Time was come ; for, to enrage her more,
A lovely Boy the teeming Rival bore.

'The Goddess cast a furious Look, and cry'd,
" It is enough ! I'm fully satisfy'd !
" This Boy shall stand a living Mark, to prove
" My Husband's Baseness, and the Strumpet's Love :
" But Vengeance shall awake : those guilty Charms
" That drew the Thunderer from *Juno's* Arms,
" No longer shall their wonted Force retain,
" Nor please the God, nor make the Mortal vain."

This said, her Hand within her Hair she wound,
Swung her to Earth, and dragg'd her on the Ground :
The prostrate Wretch lifts up her Arms in Pray'r ;
Her Arms grow shaggy, and deform'd with Hair,
Her Nails are sharpen'd into pointed Claws,
Her Hands bear half her Weight, and turn to Paws ;
Her Lips, that once could tempt a God, begin
To grow distorted in an ugly Grin.

And, lest the supplicating Brute might reach
The Ears of *Jove*, she was depriv'd of Speech :
Her surly Voice thro' a hoarse Passage came
In savage Sounds : her Mind was still the same,
The Furry Monster fix'd her Eyes above,
And heav'd her new unweildy Paws to *Jove*,

And

And begg'd his Aid with inward Groans ; and tho'
She could not call him false, she thought him so.

How did she fear to lodge in Woods alone,
And haunt the Fields and Meadows, once her own !
How often would the deep-mouth'd Dogs pursue,
Whilst from her Hounds the frightened Huntress flew !
How did she fear her Fellow-Brutes, and shun
The shaggy Bear, tho' now herself was one !
How from the Sight of rugged Wolves retire,
Altho' the grim *Lycaon* was her Sire !

But now her Son had fifteen Summers told,
Fierce at the Chace, and in the Forest bold ;
When, as he beat the Woods in quest of Prey,
He chanc'd to rouse his Mother where she lay.
She knew her Son, and kept him in her Sight,
And fondly gaz'd : the Boy was in a Fright,
And aim'd a pointed Arrow at her Breast,
And would have slain his Mother in the Beast ;
But *Jove* forbid, and snatch'd 'em thro' the Air
In Whirlwinds up to Heav'n, and fix'd 'em there !
Where the new Constellations nightly rise,
And add a Lustre to the Northern Skies.

When *Juno* saw the Rival in her Height,
Spangled with Stars, and circled round with Light,
She fought Old *Ocean* in his deep Abodes,
And *Tethys*, both rever'd among the Gods.
They ask what brings her there : " Ne'er ask, says she,
" What brings me here, Heav'n is no Place for me.
" You'll see, when Night has cover'd all Things o'er,
" *Jove's* starry Bastard and triumphant Whore

" Usurp

"Usurp the Heav'ns; you'll see 'em proudly roll
"In their new Orbs, and brighten all the Pole.
"And who shall now on *Juno's* Altars wait,
"When those she hates grow greater by her Hate?
"I on the Nymph a brutal Form impress'd,
"Jove to a Goddess has transform'd the Beast;
"This, this was all my weak Revenge could do:
"But let the God his chaste Amours pursue,
"And, as he acted after *Io's* Rape,
"Restore th' Adultress to her former Shape;
"Then may he cast his *Juno* off, and lead
"The great *Lycaon's* Offspring to his Bed.
"But you, ye venerable Pow'rs, be kind,
"And, if my Wrongs a due Resentment find,
"Receive not in your Waves their setting Beams,
"Nor let the glaring Strumpet taint your Streams."

The Goddess ended, and her Wish was given.
Back she return'd in Triumph up to Heav'n;
Her gaudy Peacocks drew her thro' the Skies,
Their Tails were spotted with a thousand Eyes;
The Eyes of *Argus* on their Tails were rang'd,
At the same Time the Raven's Colour chang'd.

The Story of CORONIS, *and Birth of*
ÆSCULAPIUS.

The Raven once in snowy Plumes was drest,
White as the whitest Dove's unsully'd Breast,
Fair as the Guardian of the Capitol,
Soft as the Swan; a large and lovely Fowl;

His

His Tongue, his prating Tongue had chang'd him quite
To footy Blackness, from the purest White.

The Story of his Change shall here be told.

In *Thessaly* there liv'd a Nymph of old,
Coronis named; a peerless Maid she shin'd,
Confest the fairest of the fairer Kind.

Apollo lov'd her, 'till her Guilt he knew,
While true she was, or whilst he thought her true.

But his own Bird the Raven chanc'd to find
The false one with a secret Rival join'd.

Coronis begg'd him to suppress the Tale,
But could not with repeated Pray'rs prevail.
His milk-white Pinions to the God he ply'd;

The busy Daw flew with him, Side by Side,
And by a thousand teizing Questions drew
Th' important Secret from him as they flew.

The Daw gave honest Counsel, tho' despis'd,
And, tedious in her Tattle, thus advis'd.

"Stay, filly Bird, th' ill-natur'd Task refuse,

"Nor be the Bearer of unwelcome News.

"Be warn'd by my Example: you discern

"What now I am, and what I was shall learn.

"My foolish Honesty was all my Crime;

"Then hear my Story. Once upon a Time,

"The two-shap'd *Erichonius* had his Birth

"(Without a Mother) from the teeming Earth;

"*Minerva* nurs'd him, and the Infant laid

"Within a Chest, of twining *Osiers* made.

"The Daughters of King *Cecrops* undertook

"To guard the Chest, commanded not to look

"On

" On what was hid within. I stood to see
 " The Charge obey'd, perch'd on a neighb'ring Tree.
 " The Sisters *Pandrosos* and *Hersé* keep
 " The strict Command; *Aglauros* needs would peep,
 " And saw the monstrous Infant, in a Fright,
 " And call'd her Sisters to the hideous Sight:
 " A Boy's soft Shape did to the Waist prevail,
 " But the Boy ended in a Dragon's Tail.
 " I told the stern *Minerva* all that pass'd,
 " But for my Pains, discarded and disgrac'd,
 " The frowning Goddess drove me from her Sight,
 " And for her Fav'rite chose the Bird of Night.
 " Be then no Tell-Tale; for I think my Wrong
 " Enough to teach a Bird to hold her Tongue.

" But you, perhaps, may think I was remov'd,
 " As never by the heavenly Maid belov'd:
 " But I was lov'd; ask *Pallas* if I lie;
 " Tho' *Pallas* hate me now, she won't deny:
 " For I, whom in a feather'd Shape you view,
 " Was once a Maid (by Heav'n the Story's true)
 " A blooming Maid, and a King's Daughter too.
 " A Crowd of Lovers own'd my Beauty's Charms;
 " My Beauty was the Cause of all my Harms;
 " *Neptune*, as on his Shores I went to rove,
 " Observ'd me in my Walks, and fell in Love.
 " He made his Courtship, he confess'd his Pain,
 " And offer'd Force, when all his Arts were vain;
 " Swift he pursu'd; I ran along the Strand,
 " 'Till, spent and weary'd on the sinking Sand,

" I shriek'd

" I shriek'd aloud, with Cries I fill'd the Air
 " To Gods and Men ; nor God nor Man was there :
 " A Virgin Goddess heard a Virgin's Pray'r. }
 " For, as my Arms I lifted to the Skies,
 " I saw black Feathers from my Fingers rise :
 " I strove to fling my Garment on the Ground,
 " My Garment turn'd to Plumes, and girt me round :
 " My Hands to beat my naked Bosom try ;
 " Nor naked Bosom now nor Hands had I :
 " Lightly I tript, nor weary as before
 " Sunk in the Sand, but skimm'd along the Shore ;
 " Till, rising on my Wings, I was preferr'd
 " To be the chaste *Minerva's* Virgin Bird :
 " Preferr'd in vain ! I now am in Disgrace ;
 " *Nyctimene* the Owl enjoys my Place.
 " On her incestuous Life I need not dwell,
 " (In *Lesbos* still the horrid Tale they tell)
 " And of her dire Amours you must have heard,
 " For which she now does Penance in a Bird,
 " That conscious of her Shame, avoids the Light,
 " And loves the gloomy Cov'ring of the Night ;
 " The Birds, where-e'er she flutters, scare away
 " The hooting Wretch, and drive her from the Day."
 The Raven, urg'd by such Impertience,
 Grew passionate, it seems, and took Offence,
 And curst the harmless Daw ; the Daw withdrew :
 The Raven to her injur'd Patron flew,
 And found him out, and told the fatal Truth,
 Of false *Coronis* and the favour'd Youth.

The

The God was wroth; the Colour left his Look,
The Wreath his Head, the Harp his Hand forlook :
His Silver Bow and feather'd Shafts he took,
And lodg'd an Arrow in the tender Breast,
That had so often to his own been prest.

Down fell the wounded Nymph, and sadly groan'd,
And pull'd his Arrow reeking from the Wound;
And welt'ring in her Blood thus faintly cry'd,
“ Ah cruel God ! tho' I have justly dy'd,
“ What has, alas ! my unborn Infant done,
“ That he should fall, and Two expire in One ? ”
This said, in Agonies she fetch'd her Breath.

The God dissolves in Pity at her Death;
He hates the Bird that made her Falshood known,
And hates himself for what himself had done;
The feather'd Shaft, that sent her to the Fates,
And his own Hand, that sent the Shaft, he hates.
Fain would he heal the Wound, and ease her Pain,
And tries the Compass of his Art in vain.
Soon as he saw the lovely Nymph expire,
The Pile made ready, and the kindling Fire,
With Sighs and Groans her Obsequies he kept,
And, if a God could weep, the God had wept.
Her Corps he kiss'd, and heav'nly Incense brought,
And solemniz'd the Death himself had wrought.

But lest his Offspring should her Fate partake,
Spight of th' immortal Mixture in his Make,
He ript her Womb, and set the Child at large,
And gave him to the Centaur *Chiron*'s Charge :

Then

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Then in his Fury black'd the Raven o'er,
And bad him prate in his white Plumes no more.

OCYRRHOE transform'd into a Mare.

Old *Chiron* took the Babe with secret Joy,
Proud of the Charge of the Celestial Boy.
His Daughter too, whom on the Sandy Shore
The Nymph *Charicle* to the Centaur bore,
With Hair dishevel'd on her Shoulders, came
To see the Child; *Ocyrrhoe* was her Name ;
She knew her Father's Arts, and could rehearse
The Depths of Prophecy in sounding Verse.
Once, as the sacred Infant she survey'd,
The God was kindled in the raving Maid,
And thus she utter'd her Prophetic Tale ;
“ Hail, great Physician of the World, all-hail ;
“ Hail, mighty Infant, who in Years to come
“ Shalt heal the Nations, and defraud the Tomb ;
“ Swift be thy Growth ! thy Triumphs unconfin'd !
“ Make Kingdoms thicker, and increase Mankind.
“ Thy daring Art shall animate the Dead,
“ And draw the Thunder on thy guilty Head :
“ Then shalt thou dye, but from the dark Abode
“ Rise up victorious and be twice a God.
“ And thou, my Sire, not destin'd by thy Birth
“ To turn to Dust, and mix with common Earth,
“ How wilt thou tofs, and rave, and long to die,
“ And quit thy Claim to Immortality ;

“ When

- " When thou shalt feel, enrag'd with inward Pains,
" The *Hydra's* Venom rankling in thy veins?
" The Gods, in Pity, shall contract thy Date,
" And give thee over to the Pow'r of Fate."

Thus ent'ring into Destiny, the Maid
The secrets of offending *Jove* betray'd :
More had she still to say ; but now appears
Oppress'd with Sobs and Sighs, and drown'd in Tears.
" My Voice, says she is gone, my Language fails ;
" Through ev'ry Limb my kindred Shape prevails :
" Why did the God this fatal Gift impart,
" And with prophetic Raptures swell my Heart !
" What new Desires are these ? I long to pace
" O'er flow'ry Meadows, and to feed on Grass ;
" I hasten to a Brute, a Maid no more ;
" But why, alas ! am I transform'd all o'er
" My Sire does half a human Shape retain,
" And in his upper Parts preserves the Man."

Her Tongue no more distinct Complaints affords,
But in shrill Accents and mis-shapen Words
Pours forth such hideous Wailings as declare
The human Form confounded in the Mare :
"Till by degrees accomplish'd in the Beast,
She neigh'd outright, and all the Steed exprest.
Her stooping Body on her Hands is born,
Her Hands are turn'd to Hoofs, and shod in Horn,
Her yellow Tresses ruffle in a Mane,
And in a flowing Tail she frisks her Train.
The Mare was finish'd in her Voice and Look,
And a new Name from the new Figure took.

The Transformation of BATTUS to a Touch-stone.

Sore wept the Centaur, and to *Phæbus* pray'd ;
 But how cou'd *Phæbus* give the Centaur Aid ?
 Degraded of his Pow'r by angry *Jove*,
 In *Elis* then a Herd of Beeves he drove ;
 And wielded in his Hand a Staff of Oak,
 And o'er his Shoulders threw the Shepherd's Cloak ;
 On seven compacted Reeds he us'd to play,
 And on his rural Pipe to waste the Day.

As once attentive to his Pipe he play'd,
 The crafty *Hermes* from the God convey'd
 A Drove that sep'rate from their Fellows stray'd. }
 The Theft an old insidious Peasant view'd,
 (They call'd him *Battus* in the Neighbourhood)
 Hir'd by a wealthy *Pylian* Prince to feed
 His fav'rite Mares, and watch the gen'rous Breed.
 The thievish God suspected him, and took
 The Hind aside, and thus in Whispers spoke ;
 " Discover not the Theft, whoe'er thou be,
 " And take that milk-white Heifer for thy Fee.
 " Go Stranger, cries the Clown, securely on,
 " That Stone shall sooner tell," and show'd a Stone.

The God withdrew, but strait return'd again,
 In Speech and Habit like a Country Swain ;
 And cries out, " Neighbour hast thou seen a Stray
 " Of Bullocks and of Heifers pass this Way ?
 " In the Recov'ry of my Cattle join,
 " A Bullock and a Heifer shall be thine."

The

The Peasant quick replies, " You'll find 'em there
 " In yon dark Vale ; " and in the Vale they were.
 The double Bribe had his false Heart beguil'd :
 The God, successful in the Trial, smil'd ;
 " And dost thou thus betray my self to me ?
 " Me to my self dost thou betray ? " says he :
 Then to a *Touch-stone* turns the faithless Spy ;
 And in his Name records his Infamy.

*The Story of AGLAUROS transform'd into
 a Statue.*

This done, the God flew up on high, and pass'd
 O'er lofty *Athens*, by *Minerva* grac'd,
 And wide *Munichia*, whilst his Eyes survey
 All the vast Region that beneath him lay.

'Twas now the Feast, when each *Athenian* Maid
 Her yearly Homage to *Minerva* paid ;
 In Canisters, with Garlands cover'd o'er,
 High on their Heads, their mystick Gifts they bore :
 And now, returning in a solemn Train,
 The Troop of shining Virgins fill'd the Plain.

The God well pleas'd beheld the pompous Show,
 And saw the bright Procession pass below ;
 Then veer'd about, and took a wheeling Flight,
 And hover'd o'er them : As the spreading Kite,
 That smells the slaughter'd Victim from on high,
 Flies at a Distance, if the Priests are nigh,
 And sails around and keeps it in her Eye ;
 So kept the God the Virgin Quire in view,
 And in slow winding Circles round them flew,

As *Lucifer* excells the meanest Star;
 Or, as the full-orb'd *Phæbe Lucifer*;
 So much did *Herse* all the rest outvy,
 And gave a Grace to the Solemnity.
Hermes was fir'd, as in the Clouds he hung:
 So the cold Bullet, that with Fury slung
 From *Balearick* Engines mounts on high,
 Glows in the Whirl, and burns along the Sky.
 At length he pitch'd upon the Ground, and show'd
 The Form Divine, the Features of a God.
 He knew their Vertue o'er a Female Heart,
 And yet he strives to better them by Art.
 He hangs his Mantle loose, and sets to show
 The golden Edging on the Seam below;
 Adjusts his flowing Curls, and in his Hand
 Waves, with an Air, the Sleep-procuring Wand;
 The glitt'ring Sandals to his Feet applies,
 And to each Heel the well-trim'd Pinion ties.

His Ornaments with nicest Art display'd,
 He seeks th' Apartment of the Royal Maid.
 The Roof was all with polish'd Iv'ry lin'd,
 That richly mix'd, in Clouds of Tortoise shin'd.
 Three Rooms, contiguous, in a Range were plac'd,
 The Midmost by the beauteous *Herse* grac'd;
 Her Virgin Sisters lodged on either Side.
Aglauros first th' approaching God descri'd,
 And, as he cross'd her Chamber, ask'd his Name.
 And what his Business was, and whence he came,
 "I come, reply'd the God, from Heav'n to woo
 "Your Sister, and to make an Aunt of you;

"I am

" I am the Son and Messenger of Jove,
 " My Name is *Mercury*, my Bus'ness Love ;
 " Do you, kind Damsel, take a Lover's Part,
 " And gain Admittance to your Sister's Heart."

She star'd him in the Face with Looks amaz'd,
 As when she on *Minerva*'s Secret gaz'd,
 And asks a mighty Treasure for her Hire ;
 And, 'till he brings it, makes the God retire.
Minerva griev'd to see the Nymph succeed ;
 And now rememb'ring the late impious Deed,
 When, disobedient to her strict Command,
 She touch'd the Chest with an unhallow'd Hand,
 In big-swoln Sighs her inward Rage express'd,
 That heav'd the rising *Aegis* on her Breast ;
 Then sought out *Envy* in her dark Abode,
 Defil'd with ropy Gore and Clots of Blood :
 Shut from the Winds, and from the wholesome Skies,
 In a deep Vale the gloomy Dungeon lies,
 Disfmal and cold, where not a Beam of Light
 Invades the Winter, or disturbs the Night.

Directly to the Cave her Course she steer'd ;
 Against the Gates her martial Lance she rear'd ;
 The Gates flew open, and the Fierd appear'd. }
 A pois'nous Morfel in her Teeth she chew'd,
 And gorg'd the Flesh of Vipers for her Food.
Minerva loathing turn'd away her Eye ;
 The hideous Monster, rising heavily,
 Came stalking forward with a fullen Pace,
 And left her mangled Offals on the Place.
 Soon as she saw the Goddess gay and bright,
 She fetch'd a Groan at such a chearful Sight.

Livid and meagre were her Looks, her Eye
In foul distorted Glances turn'd awry ;
A Hoard of Gall her inward Parts possess'd,
And spread a Greenness o'er her canker'd Breast ;
Her Teeth were brown with Rust, and from her Tongue,
In dangling Drops, the stringy Poison hung.
She never smiles but when the wretched weep,
Nor lulls her Malice with a Moment's Sleep,
Restless in Spite : while watchful to destroy,
She pines and sickens at another's Joy ;
Foe to herself, distressing and distressed,
She bears her own Tormentor in her Breast.
The Goddess gave (for she abhorr'd her Sight)
A short Command : " To *Athens* speed thy Flight ;
" On curst *Aglauros* try thy utmost Art,
" And fix thy rankest Venoms in her Heart."
This said, her Spear she push'd against the Ground,
And mounting from it with an active Bound,
Flew off to Heav'n : the Hag, with Eyes askew,
Look'd up, and mutter'd Curses as she flew ;
For sore she fretted, and began to grieve
At the Success which she herself must give.
Then takes her Staff, hung round with Wreaths of Thorn,
And sails along, in a black Whirlwind born,
O'er Fields and flow'ry Meadows : where she steers
Her baneful Course, a mighty Blast appears,
Mildews and Blights ; the Meadows are defac'd,
The Fields, the Flow'rs, and the whole Years laid waste :
On Mortals next, and peopled Towns she falls,
And breathes a burning Plague among their Walls.

When

When *Athena* she beheld, for Arts renown'd,
With Peace made happy, and with Plenty crown'd,
Scarce could the hideous Fiend from Tears forbear,
To find out nothing that deserv'd a Tear.
Th' Apartment now she enter'd, where at rest
Aglauros lay, with gentle Sleep oppress'd.
To execute *Minerva*'s dire Command,
She stroak'd the Virgin with her canker'd Hand,
Then prickly Thorns into her Breast convey'd,
That stung to Madness the devoted Maid:
Her subtle Venom still improves the Smart,
Frets in the Blood, and festers in the Heart.

To make the Work more sure, a Scene she drew,
And plac'd before the dreaming Virgin's View
Her Sister's Marriage, and her glorious Fate:
Th' imaginary Bride appears in State;
The bride groom with unwonted Beauty glows,
For Envy magnifies whate'er she shows.

Full of the Dream, *Aglauros* pin'd away
In Tears all Night, in Darkness all the Day;
Consum'd like Ice, that just begins to run,
When feebly smitten by the distant Sun;
Or like unwholsome Weeds, that set on Fire
Are slowly wasted, and in Smoke expire.
Giv'n up to Envy (for in ev'ry Thought
The Thorns, the Venom, and the Vision wrought)
Oft did she call on Death, as oft decreed,
Rather than see her Sister's Wish succeed,
To tell her awful Father what had past,
At length before the Door herself she cast;

And, sitting on the Ground with sullen Pride,
 A Passage to the love-sick God deny'd.
 The God carefs'd, and for Admission pray'd,
 And sooth'd in softest Words th' envenom'd Maid.
 In vain he sooth'd; "Begone! the Maid replies,
 "Or here I keep my Seat, and never rise."
 "Then keep thy Seat for ever," cries the God,
 And touch'd the Door, wide op'ning to his Rod.
 Fain would she rise, and stop him, but she found
 Her Trunk too heavy to forsake the Ground;
 Her Joints are all benum'd, her Hands are pale,
 And Marble now appears in ev'ry Nail.
 As when a Cancer in the Body feeds,
 And gradual Death from Limb to Limb proceeds;
 So does the Chilness to each vital Part,
 Spread by Degrees, and creeps into her Heart;
 'Till hard'ning ev'ry where, and speechless grown,
 She sits unmov'd, and freezes to a Stone.
 But still her envious Hue and sullen Mien;
 Are in the sedentary Figure seen.

EUROPA'S Rape.

When now the God his Fury had allay'd,
 And taken Vengeance on the stubborn Maid,
 From where the bright *Atbenian* Turrets rise
 He mounts aloft, and re-ascends the Skies.
Jove saw him enter the sublime Abodes,
 And, as he mix'd among the Crowd of Gods,
Beckon'd

Beckon'd him out, and drew him from the rest,
And in soft Whispers thus his Will exprest.

“ My trusty *Hermes*, by whose ready Aid [vey'd.
“ Thy Sire's Commands are through the World con-
“ Resume thy Wings, exert their utmost Force,
“ And to the Walls of *Sidon* speed thy Course ;
“ There find a Herd of Heifers wand'ring o'er
“ The neighb'ring Hill, and drive 'em to the Shore.”

Thus spoke the God, concealing his Intent.
The trusty *Hermes* on his Message went,
And found the Herd of Heifers wand'ring o'er
A neighb'ring Hill, and drove 'em to the Shore ;
Where the King's Daughter, with a lovely Train
Of Fellow-Nymphs was sporting on the Plain.

The Dignity of Empire laid aside,
(For Love but ill agrees with kingly Pride)
The Ruler of the Skies, the thund'ring God,
Who shakes the World's Foundation with a Nod,
Among a Herd of lowing Heifers ran,
Frisk'd in a Bull, and bellow'd o'er the Plain.
Large Rolls of Fat about his Shoulders clung,
And from his Neck the double Dewlap hung.
His Skin was whiter than the Snow that lies
Unfully'd by the Breath of southern Skies ;
Small shining Horns on his curl'd Forehead stand,
As turn'd and polish'd by the Workman's Hand ;
His Eye-balls roll'd, not formidably bright,
But gaz'd and languish'd with a gentle Light.
His ev'ry Look was peaceful, and exprest
The Softness of the Lover in the Beast.

Agenor's royal Daughter, as she play'd
Among the Fields, the Milk-white Bull survey'd,
And view'd his spotless Body with Delight,
And at a Distance kept him in her Sight.
At length she pluck'd the rising Flow'rs, and fed
The gentle Beast, and fondly stroak'd his Head.
He stood well-pleas'd to touch the charming Fair,
But hardly could confine his Pleasure there.
And now he wantons o'er the neighb'ring Strand,
Now rolls his Body on the yellow Sand;
And, now perceiving all her Fears decay'd,
Comes tossing forward to the royal Maid;
Gives her his Breast to stroke, and downward turns
His grizly Brow, and gently stoops his Horns.
In flow'ry Wreaths the royal Virgin drest
His bending Horns, and kindly clapt his Breast.
'Till now grown wanton and devoid of Fear,
Not knowing that she prest the Thunderer,
She plac'd herself upon his Back, and rode
O'er Fields and Meadows, seated on the God.

He gently march'd along, and by Degrees
Left the dry Meadow, and approach'd the Seas;
Where now he dips his Hoofs and wets his Thighs,
Now plunges in, and carries off the Prize.
The frighted Nymph looks backward on the Shore,
And hears the tumbling Billows round her roar;
But still she holds him fast: one Hand is born
Upon his Back, the other grasps a Horn:
Her Train of rustling Garments flies behind,
Swells in the Air, and hovers in the Wind.

Thro'

Thro' Storms and Tempests he the Virgin bore,
And lands her safe on the *Diæan* Shore ;
Where now, in his divinest Form array'd,
In his true Shape he captivates the Maid ;
Who gazes on him, and with wond'ring Eyes
Beholds the new majestic Figure rise,
His glowing Features, and celestial Light,
And all the God discover'd to her Sight.

The End of the Second Book.



THE HISTORY OF THE
VIRGINIA

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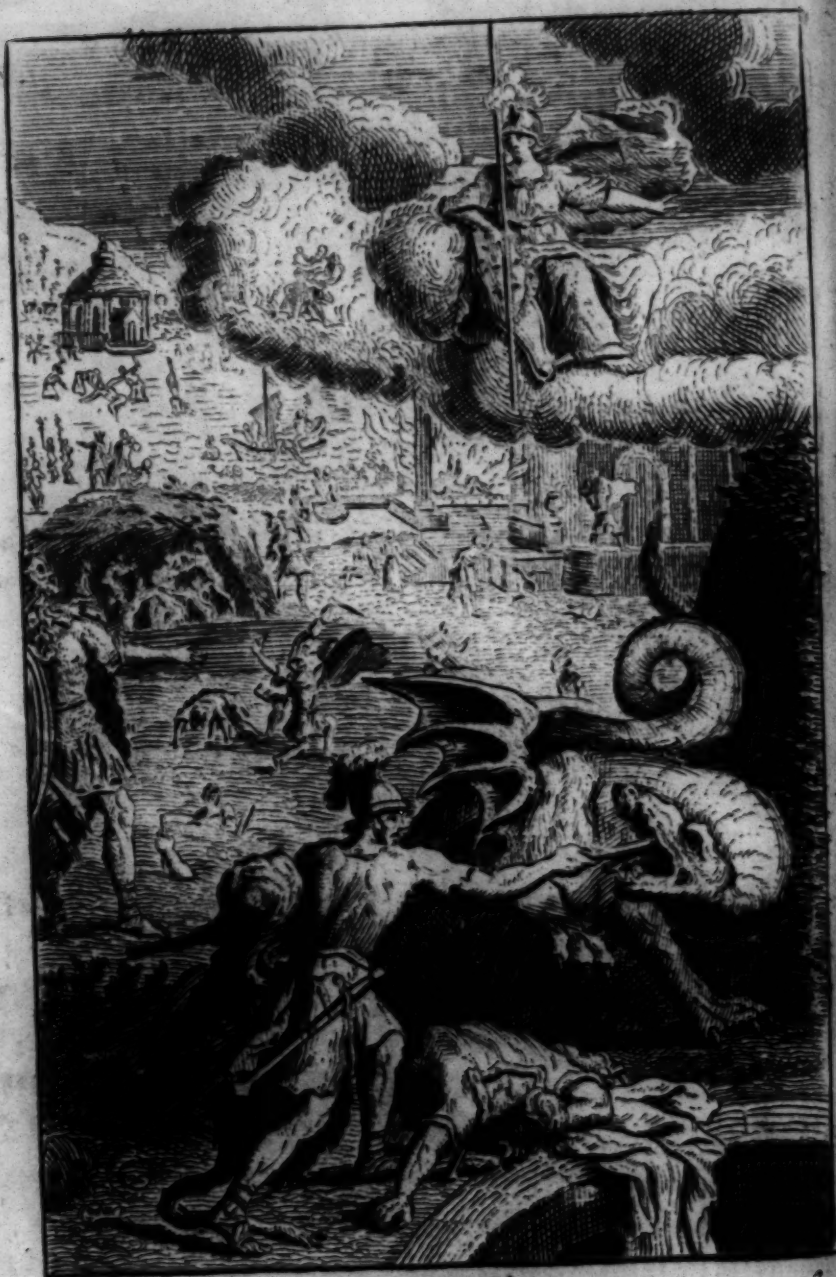
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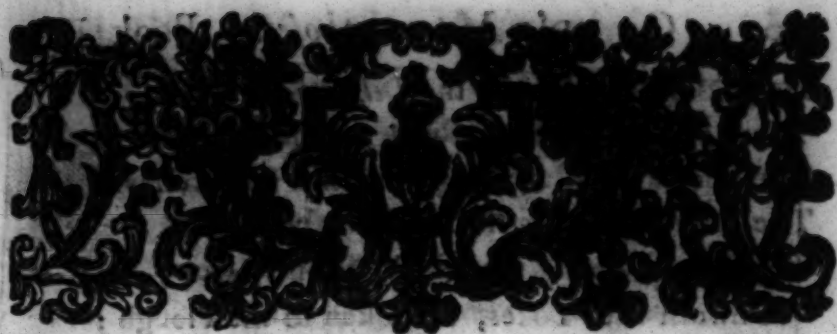


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To Her Grace the
Dutchess of Newcastle





O V I D's
METAMORPHOSES.
BOOK III.

Translated by Mr. ADDISON.

The Story of CADMUS.



WHEN now Agenor had his Daughter
lost,
He sent his Son to search on ev'ry
Coast;
And sternly bid him to his Arms restore
The darling Maid, or see his Face no more;
But live an Exile in a foreign Clime;
Thus was the Father pious to a Crime.

The restless Youth search'd all the World around;
But how can *Jove* in his Amours be found?
When, tir'd at length with unsuccessful Toil,
To shun his angry Sire and native Soil,

He

He goes a Suppliant to the *Delphick* Dome;
 There asks the God what new appointed Home
 Should end his Wand'rings, and his Toils relieve.
 The *Delphick* Oracles this Answer give.

“ Behold among the Fields a lonely Cow,
 “ Unworn with Yokes, unbroken to the Plough;
 “ Mark well the Place where first she lays her down,
 “ There measure out thy Walls, and build thy Town,
 “ And from thy Guide *Bœotia* call the Land,
 “ In which the destin'd Walls and Town shall stand.”

No sooner had he left the dark Abode,
 Big with the Promise of the *Delphick* God,
 When in the Fields the fatal Cow he view'd,
 Nor gall'd with Yokes, nor worn with Servitude: }
 Her gently at a Distance he pursu'd;
 And as he walk'd aloof, in Silence pray'd
 To the great Pow'r whose Counsels he obey'd.
 Her Way thro' flow'ry *Panope* she took,
 And now, *Cephisus*, cross'd thy Silver Brook;
 When to the Heav'ns her spacious Front she rais'd,
 And bellowed thrice, then backward turning gaz'd
 On those behind, 'till on the destin'd Place
 She stoop'd, and couch'd amid the rising Grass.

Cadmus salutes the Soil, and gladly hails
 The new-found Mountains, and the nameless Vales,
 And thanks the Gods, and turns about his Eye
 To see his new Dominions round him lie;
 Then sends his Servants to a neighb'ring Grove
 For living Streams, a Sacrifice to *Jove*.

O'er

O'er the wide Plain there rose a shady Wood
Of aged Trees; in its dark Bosom stood
A bushy Thicket, pathless and unworn,
O'er-run with Brambles, and perplex'd with Thorn:
Amidst the Brake a hollow Den was found,
With Rocks and shelving Arches vaulted round.

Deep in the dreary Den, conceal'd from Day,
Sacred to *Mars*, a mighty Dragon lay,
Bloated with Poison to a monstrous Size;
Fire broke in Flashes when he glanc'd his Eyes:
His tow'ring Crest was glorious to behold,
His Shoulders and his Sides were scal'd with Gold;
Three Tongues he brandish'd when he charg'd his Foes;
His teeth stood jaggy in three dreadful Rows.

The *Tyrians* in the Den for Water sought,
And with their Urns explor'd the hollow Vault:
From Side to Side their empty Urns rebound,
And rowse the sleeping Serpent with the Sound.
Strait he bestirs him, and is seen to rise;
And now with dreadful Hissings fills the Skies,
And darts his forky Tongues, and rolls his glaring
Eyes.

The *Tyrians* drop their Vessels in the Fright,
All pale and trembling at the hideous Sight.
Spire above Spire uprear'd in Air he stood,
And gazing round him over-look'd the Wood:
Then floating on the Ground in Circles roll'd,
Then leap'd upon them in a mighty Fold.
Of such a Bulk, and such a monstrous Size
The Serpent in the Polar Circle lies,
That stretches over half the northern Skies.

In vain the *Tyrians* on their Arms rely,
 In vain attempt to fight, in vain to fly :
 All their Endeavours and their Hopes are vain ;
 Some die entangled in the winding Train ;
 Some are devour'd, or feel a loathsome Death,
 Swoln up with Blasts of pestilential Breath.

And now the scorching Sun was mounted high,
 In all its Lustre, to the Noon-day Sky ;
 When, anxious for his Friends, and fill'd with Cares,
 To search the Woods th' impatient Chief prepares.
 A Lion's Hide around his Loins he wore,
 The well-poiz'd Jav'lin to the Field he bore,
 Inur'd to Blood ; the far-destroying Dart ;
 And, the best Weapon, an undaunted Heart.
 Soon as the Youth approach'd the fatal Place,
 He saw his Servants, breathless on the Grass ;
 The scaly Foe amid their Corps he view'd,
 Basking at Ease, and feasting in their Blood.
 " Such Friends, he cries, deserv'd a longer Date,
 " But *Cadmus* will revenge or share their Fate."
 Then heav'd a Stone, and rising to the Throw,
 He sent it in a Whirlwind at the Foe :
 A Tow'r, assaulted by so rude a Stroke,
 With all its lofty Battlements had shook ;
 But nothing here th' unweildy Rock avails,
 Rebounding harmless from the plaited Scales,
 That, firmly join'd, preserv'd him from a Wound,
 With native Armour crufted all around.
 With more Success, the Dart unerring flew,
 Which at his Back the raging Warrior threw ;

Amid

Amid the plaited Scales it took its Course,
 And in the spinal Marrow spent its Force.
 The Monster hiss'd aloud, and rag'd in vain,
 And writh'd his Body to and fro with Pain;
 He bit the Dart, and wrench'd the Wood away;
 The Point still buried in the Marrow lay.
 And now his Rage, increasing with his Pain,
 Reddens his Eyes, and beats in ev'ry Vein;
 Churn'd in his Teeth the foamy Venom rose,
 Whilst from his Mouth a Blast of Vapours flows,
 Such as th' infernal *Stygian* Waters cast.
 The Plants around him wither in the Blast.
 Now in a Maze of Rings he lies enroll'd,
 Now all unravell'd, and without a Fold;
 Now, like a Torrent, with a mighty Force
 Bears down the Forest in his boist'rous Course.
Cadmus gave back, and on the Lion's Spoil
 Sustain'd the Shock, then forc'd him to recoil;
 The pointed Jav'lin warded off his Rage:
 Mad with his Pains, and furious to engage,
 The Serpent champs the Steel, and bites the Spear,
 'Till Blood and Venom all the Point besmear,
 But still the Hurt he yet receiv'd was slight;
 For, whilst the Champion with redoubled Might
 Strikes home the Jav'lin, his retiring Foe
 Shrinks from the Wound, and disappoints the Blow.

The dauntless Hero still pursues his Stroke
 And presses forward, till a knotty Oak
 Retards his Foe, and stops him in the Rear;
 Full in his Throat he plung'd the fatal Spear,

That

That in th' extended Neck a Passage found,
 And pierc'd the solid Timber thro' the Wound.
 Fix'd to the reeling Trunk, with many a Stroke
 Of his huge Tail he lash'd the sturdy Oak;
 'Till spent with Toil, and lab'ring hard for Breath,
 He now lay twisting in the Pangs of Death.

Cadmus, beheld him wallow in a Flood
 Of swimming Poison, intermix'd with Blood;
 When suddenly a Speech was heard from high,
 (The Speech was heard, nor was the Speaker nigh)
 "Why dost thou thus with secret Pleasure see,
 "Insulting Man! what thou thyself shalt be?"
 Astonish'd at the Voice, he stood amaz'd,
 And all around with inward Horror gaz'd:
 When *Pallas* swift descending from the Skies,
Pallas, the Guardian of the bold and wise,
 Bids him plough up the Field, and scatter round
 The Dragon's Teeth o'er all the furrow'd Ground;
 Then tells the Youth how to his wond'ring Eyes,
 Embattled Armies from the Field shall rise.

He sows the Teeth at *Pallas*'s Command,
 And flings the future People from his Hand.
 The Clod grows warm, and crumbles where he sows;
 And now the pointed Spears advance in Rows;
 Now nodding Plumes appear, and shining Crests,
 Now the broad Shoulders and the rising Breasts;
 O'er all the Field the breathing Harvest swarms,
 A growing Host, a Crop of Men and Arms.

So thro' the parting Stage a Figure rears
 Its Body up, and Limb by Limb appears

By

By just Degrees ; 'till all the Man arise,
And in his full Proportion strikes the Eyes.

Cadmus surpriz'd, and startled at the Sight
Of his new Foes, prepar'd himself for Fight :
When one cry'd out, " Forbear, fond Man, forbear
" To mingle in a blind promiscuous War."
This said, he struck his Brother to the Ground,
Himself expiring by another's Wound ;
Nor did the third his Conquest long survive,
Dying ere scarce he had begun to live.

The dire Example ran thro' all the Field,
'Till Heaps of Brothers were by Brothers kill'd ;
The Furrows swam in Blood ; and only five
Of all the vast Increase were left alive.

Ecbion one, at *Pallas*'s Command,
Let fall the guiltless Weapon from his Hand,
And with the rest a peaceful Treaty makes,
Whom *Cadmus* as his Friends and Partners takes ;
So founds a City on the promis'd Earth,
And gives his new *Bacian* Empire Birth.
Here *Cadmus* reign'd ; and now one would have guess'd
The royal Founder in his Exile blest :
Long did he live within his new Abodes,
Ally'd by Marriage to the deathless Gods ;
And, in a fruitful Wife's Embraces old,
A long Increase of Children's Children told :
But no frail Man, however great or high,
Can be concluded blest before he die.

Aëdon was the first of all his Race,
Who griev'd his Grandfire in his borrow'd Face ;

Con-

Condemn'd by stern *Diana* to bemoan
 The branching Horns, and Visage not his own ;
 To shun his once lov'd Dogs, to bound away,
 And from their Huntsman to become their Prey,
 And yet consider why the Change was wrought,
 You'll find it his Misfortune, not his Fault ;
 Or, if a Fault, it was the Fault of Chance,
 For how can Guilt proceed from Ignorance ?

The Transformation of ACTÆON into a Stag.

In a fair Chace a shady Mountain flood,
 Well stor'd with Game, and mark'd with Trails of Blood ;
 Here did the Huntsmen, 'till the Heat of Day,
 Pursue the Stag, and load themselves with Prey ;
 When thus *Actæon* calling to the rest :

- " My Friends, said he, our Sport is at the best,
- " The Sun is high advanc'd, and downward sheds
- " His burning Beams directly on our Heads ;
- " Then by Consent abstain from further Spoils,
- " Call off the Dogs, and gather up the Toils,
- " And ere to-morrow's Sun begins his Race,
- " Take the cool Morning to renew the Chace."

They all consent, and in a chearful Train
 The jolly Huntsmen, loaden with the Slain,
 Return in Triumph from the sultry Plain.

Down in a Vale with Pine and Cypress clad,
 Refresh'd with gentle Winds, and brown with Shade,
 The chaste *Diana*'s private Haunt, there stood
 Full in the Centre of the darksome Wood

A spa-

A spacious Grotto, all around o'ergrown
With hoary Moss, and arch'd with Pumice-stone.
From out its rocky Clefts the Waters flow,
And trickling swell into a Lake below.
Nature had ev'ry where so play'd her Part,
That ev'ry where she seem'd to vie with Art.
Here the bright Goddess, toil'd and chaf'd with Heat,
Was wont to bathe her in the cool Retreat.

Here did she now with all her Train resort,
Panting with Heat, and breathless from the Sport;
Her Armour-bearer laid her Bow aside,
Some loos'd her Sandals, some her Veil unty'd;
Each busy Nymph her proper Part undrest;
While *Crocale*, more handy than the rest,
Gather'd her flowing Hair, and in a Noose
Bound it together, whilst her own hung loose.
Five of the more ignoble Sort by Turns
Fetch up the Water, and unlade the Urns.

Now all undrest the shining Goddess stood,
When young *Aëdon*, wilder'd in the Wood,
To the cool Grot by his hard Fate betray'd,
The Fountains fill'd with naked Nymphs survey'd.
The frighted Virgins shriek'd at the Suprize,
(The Forest echo'd with their piercing Cries)
Then in a Huddle round their Goddess prest:
She, proudly eminent above the rest,
With Blushes glow'd; such Blushes as adorn
The ruddy Welkin, or the purple Morn;
And tho' the crowding Nymphs her Body hide,
Half backward shrunk, and view'd him from a-side.

Surpriz'd

Surpriz'd, at first she would have snatch'd her Bow,
 But sees the circling Waters round her flow;
 These in the Hollow of her Hand she took,
 And dash'd 'em in his Face, while thus she spoke:
 "Tell, if thou canst, the wond'rous Sight disclos'd,
 "A Goddess naked to thy View expos'd."

This said, the Man begun to disappear
 By slow Degrees, and ended in a Deer.

A rising Horn on either Brow he wears,
 And stretches out his Neck, and pricks his Ears;
 Rough is his Skin, with sudden Hairs o'ergrown,
 His Bosom pants with Fears before unknown:
 Transform'd at length, he flies away in Haste,
 And wonders why he flies away so fast.
 But as by Chance, within a neighb'ring Brook,
 He saw his branching Horns and alter'd Look,
 Wretched *Alceon*! in a doleful Tone

He try'd to speak, but only gave a Groan;
 And as he wept, within the watry Glass
 He saw the big round Drops, with silent Pace,
 Run trickling down a savage hairy Face. }
 What should he do? Or seek his old Abodes,
 Or herd among the Deer, and sculk in Woods!
 Here Shame dissuades him, there his Fear prevails,
 And each by Turns his aking Heart assails.

As he thus ponders, he behind him spies
 His op'ning Hounds, and now he hears their Cries:
 A gen'rous Pack, or to maintain the Chace,
 Or snuff the Vapour from the scented Grass.

He bounded off with Fear, and swiftly ran
 O'er craggy Mountains, and the flow'ry Plain;

Thro'

Thro' Brakes and Thickets forc'd his Way, and flew
Thro' many a Ring, where once he did pursue.

In vain he oft endeavour'd to proclaim

His new Misfortune, and to tell his Name ;

Nor Voice nor Words the brutal Tongue supplies ;

From shouting Men, and Horns, and Dogs he flies, }

Deafen'd and stunn'd with their promiscuous Cries.

When now the fleetest of the Pack, that prest

Close at his Heels, and sprung before the rest,

Had fastened on him, straight another Pair

Hung on his wounded Haunch, and held him there,

'Till all the Pack came up, and ev'ry Hound

Tore the sad Huntsman grov'ling on the Ground, }

Who now appear'd but one continu'd Wound:

With dropping Tears his bitter Fate he moans,

And fills the Mountains with his dying Groans.

His Servants with a piteous Look he spies,

And turns about his supplicating Eyes.

His Servants, ignorant of what had chanc'd,

With eager Haste and joyful Shouts advanc'd,

And call'd their Lord *Aëon* to the Game.

He shook his Head in Answer to the Name ;

He heard, but wish'd he had indeed been gone,

Or only to have stood a Looker-on.

But to his Grief he finds himself too near,

And feels his rav'nous Dogs with Fury tear }

Their wretched Master panting in a Deer.

The Birth of BACCHUS.

Aëon's Suff'rings, and *Diana's* Rage,
 Did all the Thoughts of Men and Gods engage;
 Some call'd the Evils which *Diana* wrought,
 Too great, and disproportion'd to the Fault:
 Others again, esteem'd *Aëon's* Woe
 Fit for a Virgin Goddess to impose.
 The Hearers into diff'rent Parts divide,
 And Reasons are produc'd on either Side.

Juno alone, of all that heard the News,
 Nor would condemn the Goddess, nor excuse.
 She heeded not the Justice of the Deed,
 But joy'd to see the Race of *Cadmus* bleed;
 For still she kept *Europa* in her Mind,
 And, for her Sake, detested all her Kind.
 Besides, to aggravate her Hate, he heard
 How *Semele*, to *Jove's* Embrace prefer'd,
 Was now grown big with an immortal Load,
 And carry'd in her Womb a future God.
 Thus terribly incens'd, the Goddess broke
 To sudden Fury, and abruptly spoke.

" Are my Reproaches of so small a Force?
 "'Tis Time I then pursue another Course:
 " It is decreed the guilty Wretch shall die,
 " If I'm indeed the Mistress of the Sky,
 " If rightly styl'd among the Pow'rs above
 " The Wife and Sister of the thund'ring *Jove*;

" And

“ (And none can sure a Sister's Right deny)
“ It is decreed the guilty Wretch shall die.
“ She boasts an Honour I can hardly claim,
“ Pregnant she rises to a Mother's Name;
“ While proud and vain she triumphs in her *Jove*,
“ And shews the glorious Tokens of his Love :
“ But if I'm still the Mistress of the Skies,
“ By her own Lover the fond Beauty dies.”
This said, descending in a yellow Cloud,
Before the Gates of *Semele* she stood.

Old *Beroe*'s decrepit Shape she wears,
Her wrinkled Visage, and her hoary Hairs ;
Whilst in her trembling Gait she totters on,
And learns to tattle in the Nurse's Tone.
The Goddess, thus disguis'd in Age, beguil'd
With pleasing Stories her false Foster-Child.
Much did she talk of Love, and when she came
To mention to the Nymph her Lover's Name,
Fetching a Sigh, and holding down her Head,
“ 'Tis well, says she, if all be true that's said.
“ But trust me, Child, I'm much inclin'd to fear
“ Some Counterfeit in this your *Jupiter*.
“ Many an honest well-designing Maid
“ Has been by these pretended Gods betray'd,
“ But if he be indeed the thund'ring *Jove*,
“ Bid him, when next he courts the Rites of Love,
“ Descend triumphant from th' Etherial Sky,
“ In all the Pomp of his Divinity,
“ Encompass'd round by those celestial Charms,
“ With which he fills th' immortal *Juno*'s Arms.”

Th' unwary Nymph ensnar'd with what she said,
Desir'd of *Jove*, when next he sought her Bed,
To grant a certain Gift which she would chuse ;

" Fear not, reply'd the God, that I'll refuse

" Whate'er you ask : May *Styx* confirm my Voice,

" Chuse what you will, and you shall have your
Choice."

" Then, says the Nymph, when next you seek my
Arms,

" May you descend in those celestial Charms,

" With which your *Juno*'s Bosom you enflame,

" And fill with Transport Heav'n's immortal Dame."

The God surpriz'd, would fain have stopp'd her Voice,
But he had sworn, and she had made her Choice.

To keep his Promise he ascends, and shrouds
His awful Brow in Whirlwinds and in Clouds ;
Whilst all around, in terrible Array,
His Thunders rattle, and his Light'nings play.
And yet, the dazzling Lustre to abate,
He set not out in all his Pomp and State,
Clad in the mildest Light'ning of the Skies,
And arm'd with Thunder of the smallest Size :
Not those huge Bolts, by which the Giants slain
Lay overthrown on the *Phlegrean* Plain.

'Twas of a lesser Mould, and lighter Weight,
They call it Thunder of a Second-Rate ;
For the rough *Cyclops*, who by *Jove*'s Command
Temper'd the Bolt, and turn'd it to his Hand,
Work'd up less Flame and Fury in its Make,
And quench'd it sooner in the standing Lake.

Thus

Thus dreadfully adorn'd, with Horror bright,
Th' illustrious God, descending from his Height,
Came rushing on her in a Storm of Light.

The mortal Dame, too feeble to engage
The Light'ning's Flashes, and the Thunder's Rage,
Consum'd amidst the Glories she desir'd,
And in the terrible Embrace expir'd.

But, to preserve his Offspring from the Tomb,
Jove took him smoaking from the blasted Womb:
And, if on ancient Tales we may rely,
Inclos'd th' abortive Infant in his Thigh.
Here when the Babe had all his Time fulfill'd,
Io first took him for her Foster-Child;
Then the *Niseans*, in their dark Abode,
Nurs'd secretly with Milk the thriving God.

The Transformation of TIRESIAS.

'Twas now, while these Transactions past on Earth,
And *Bacchus* thus procur'd a second Birth,
When *Jove*, dispos'd to lay aside the Weight
Of public Empire and the Cares of State,
As to his Queen in Nectar Bowls he quaff'd,
"In troth, says he, and as he spoke he laugh'd,
"The Sense of Pleasure in the Male is far
"More dull and dead, than what you Females share."
• *Juno* the Truth of what was said deny'd;
Tiresias therefore must the Cause decide,
For he the Pleasure of each Sex had try'd.

In happen'd once, within a shady Wood,
 Two twisted Snakes he in Conjunction view'd,
 When with his Staff their slimy Folds he broke,
 And lost his Manhood at the fatal Stroke.
 But, after seven revolving Years, he view'd
 The self-same Serpents in the self-same Wood:
 "And if, says he, such Virtue in you lie,
 "That he who dares your slimy Folds untie
 "Must change his Kind, a second Stroke I'll try." }
 Again he struck the Snakes, and stood again
 New-sex'd, and strait recover'd into Man;
 Him therefore both the Deities create
 The sov'reign Umpire, in their grand Debate;
 And he declar'd for *Jove*; when *Juno* fir'd,
 More than so trivial an Affair requir'd,
 Depriv'd him, in her Fury, of his Sight,
 And left him groping round in sudden Night.
 But *Jove* (for so it is in Heav'n decreed,
 That no one God repeal another's Deed)
 Irradiates all his Soul with inward Light,
 And with the Prophet's Art relieves the Want of Sight.

The Transformation of ECHO.

Fam'd far and near for knowing Things to come,
 From him th' enquiring Nations sought their Doom;
 The fair *Liriope* his Answers try'd,
 And first th' unerring Prophet justify'd.
 This Nymph the God *Cepheus* had abus'd,
 With all his winding Waters circumfus'd,

And

And on the *Nereid* got a lovely Boy,
Whom the soft Maids ev'n then beheld with Joy.

The tender Dame, solicitous to know
Whether her Child should reach old Age or no,
Consults the Sage *Tiresias*, who replies,
"If e'er he knows himself he surely dies."
Long liv'd the dubious Mother in Suspence,
'Till Time unriddled all the Prophet's Sense.

Narcissus now his sixteenth Year began,
Just turn'd of Boy, and on the Verge of Man;
Many a Friend the blooming Youth caress'd,
Many a love-sick Maid her Flame confess'd:
Such was his Pride, in vain the Friend caress'd,
The love-sick Maid in vain her Flame confess'd,

Once, in the Woods, as he pursu'd the Chace,
The babbling *Echo* had descry'd his Face;
She, who in others' Words her Silence breaks,
Nor speaks herself but when another speaks.
Echo was then a Maid, of Speech bereft,
Of wonted Speech; for tho' her Voice was left,
Juno a Curse did on her Tongue impose,
To sport with ev'ry Sentence in the Close.
Full often when the Goddess might have caught
Jove and her Rivals in the very Fault,
This Nymph with subtle Stories would delay
Her Coming, 'till the Lovers slipp'd away.
The Goddess found out the Deceit in Time,
And then she cry'd, "That Tongue, for this thy Crime,
"Which could so many subtle Tales produce,
"Shall be hereafter but of little Use."

Hence 'tis she prattles in a fainter Tone,
With mimick Sounds, and Accents not her own.

This love-sick Virgin, over-joy'd to find
The Boy alone, still follow'd him behind :
When glowing warmly at her near Approach
As Sulphur blazes at the Taper's Touch,
She long'd her hidden Passion to reveal,
And tell her Pains, but had not Words to tell :
She can't begin, but waits for the Rebound,
To catch his Voice, and to return the Sound.

The Nymph, when nothing could *Narcissus* move,
Still dash'd with Blushes for her slighted Love,
Liv'd in the shady Covert of the Woods,
In solitary Caves and dark Abodes ;
Where pining wander'd the rejected Fair,
'Till harrafs'd out, and worn away with Care,
The founding Skeleton, of Blood bereft,
Besides her Bones and Voice had nothing left.
Her Bones are petrify'd, her Voice is found
In Vaults, where still it doubles ev'ry Sound.

The Story of NARCISSUS.

Thus did the Nymphs in vain carefs the Boy,
He still was lovely, but he still was coy ;
When one fair Virgin of the slighted Train
Thus pray'd the Gods, provok'd by his Disdain,
" Oh may he love like me, and love like me in
vain !" }

Rhamnusia pity'd the neglected Fair,
And with just Vengeance answer'd to her Pray'r.

There

There stands a Fountain in a darksome Wood,
 Nor stain'd with falling Leaves nor rising Mud;
 Untroubled by the Breath of Winds it rests,
 Unfully'd by the Touch of Men or Beasts:
 High Bow'rs of shady Trees above it grow,
 And rising Grass and chearful Greens below.
 Pleas'd with the Form and Coolness of the Place,
 And over-heated by the Morning Chace,
Narcissus on the grassy Verdure lies:
 But whilst within the Chrystal Fount he tries
 To quench his Heat, he feels new Heats arise.
 For as his own bright Image he survey'd,
 He fell in Love with the fantastick Shade;
 And o'er the fair Resemblance hung unmov'd,
 Nor knew, fond Youth! it was himself he lov'd.
 The well-turn'd Neck and Shoulders he descries,
 The spacious Forehead, and the sparkling Eyes;
 The Hands that *Bacchus* might not scorn to show,
 And Hair that round *Apollo's* Head might flow;
 With all the Purple Youthfulness of Face,
 That gently blushes in the wat'ry Glass.
 By his own Flames consum'd the Lover lies,
 And gives himself the Wound by which he dies.
 To the cold Water oft he joins his Lips,
 Oft catching at the beauteous Shade he dips
 His Arms, as often from himself he slips.
 Nor knows he who it is his Arms pursue
 With eager Clasps, but loves he knows not who.

What could, fond Youth, this helpless Passion move?
 What kindled in thee this unpity'd Love?

Thy own warm Blush within the Water glows,
 With thee the colour'd Shadow comes and goes,
 Its empty Being on thyself relies ;
 Step thou aside, and the frail Charmer dies.

Still o'er the Fountain's wat'ry Gleam he stood,
 Mindless of Sleep, and negligent of Food ;
 Still view'd his Face, and languish'd as he view'd. }
 At length he rais'd his Head, and thus began
 To vent his Grievs, and tell the Woods his Pain.

" You Trees, says he, and thou surrounding Grove,
 " Who oft have been the kindly Scenes of Love,
 " Tell me, if e'er within your Shades did lie
 " A Youth so tortur'd, so perplex'd as I ?
 " I, who before me see the charming Fair,
 " Whilst there he stands, and yet he stands not there :
 " In such a Maze of Love my Thoughts are lost ;
 " And yet no bulwark'd Town, nor distant Coast,
 " Preserves the beauteous Youth from being seen,
 " No Mountains rise, nor Oceans flow between.
 " A shallow Water hinders my Embrace ;
 " And yet the lovely Mimick wears a Face
 " That kindly smiles, and when I bend to join
 " My Lips to his, he fondly bends to mine.
 " Hear, gentle Youth, and pity my Complaint,
 " Come from thy Well, thou fair Inhabitant.
 " My Charms an easy Conquest have obtain'd
 " O'er other Hearts, by thee alone disdain'd.
 " But why should I despair ? I'm sure he burns
 " With equal Flames, and languishes by Turns :
 " Whene'er I stoop, he offers at a Kiss,
 " And when my Arms I stretch, he stretches his,

" His

" His Eye with Pleasure on my Face he keeps,

" He smiles my Smiles, and when I weep he weeps.

" Whene'er I speak, his moving Lips appear

" To utter something, which I cannot hear.

" Ah wretched me ! I now begin too late

" To find out all the long-perplex'd Deceit ;

" It is myself I love, myself I see ;

" The gay Delusion is a Part of me.

" I kindle up the Fires by which I burn,

" And my own Beauties from the Well return.

" Whom should I court ? how utter my Complaint ?

" Enjoyment but produces my Restraint,

" And too much Plenty makes me die for Want.

" How gladly would I from myself remove !

" And at a Distance set the Thing I love.

" My Breast is warm'd with such unusual Fire,

" I wish him absent whom I most admire.

" And now I faint with Grief ; my Fate draws nigh,

" In all the Pride of blooming Youth I die.

" Death will the Sorrows of my Heart relieve.

" Oh might the visionary Youth survive,

" I should with Joy my latest Breath resign !

" But oh ! I see his Fate involv'd in mine."

This said, the weeping Youth again return'd
To the clear Fountain, where again he burn'd ;

His Tears defac'd the Surface of the Well,

With Circle after Circle, as they fell :

And now the lovely Face but half appears,

O'er-run with Wrinkles, and deform'd with Tears.

" Ah whither, cries *Narcissus*, dost thou fly ?

" Let me still feed the Flame by which I die ;

" Let me still see, tho' I'm no further blest."
 Then rends his Garment off, and beats his Breast :
 His naked Bosom redden'd with the Blow,
 In such a Blush as purple Clusters show,
 Ere yet the Sun's Autumnal Heats refine
 Their sprightly Juice, and mellow it to Wine.
 The glowing Beauties of his Breast he spies,
 And with a new redoubled Passion dies.
 As Wax dissolves, as Ice begins to run,
 And trickle into Drops before the Sun ;
 So melts the Youth, and languishes away,
 His Beauty withers, and his Limbs decay ;
 And none of those attractive Charms remain,
 To which the slighted *Echo* su'd in vain.

She saw him in his present Misery,
 Whom, spight of all her Wrongs, she griev'd to see.
 She answer'd sadly to the Lover's Moan,
 Sigh'd back his Sighs, and groan'd to ev'ry Groan :
 " Ah Youth ! belov'd in vain," *Narcissus* cries,
 " Ah Youth ! belov'd in vain," the Nymph replies.
 " Farewel," says he ; the parting Sound scarce fell
 From his faint Lips, but she reply'd, " Farewel."
 Then on the wholesome Earth he gasping lies,
 'Till Death shuts up those self-admiring Eyes.
 To the cold Shades his sitting Ghost retires,
 And in the *Stygian* Waves itself admires.

For him the *Naiads* and *Dryads* mourn,
 Whom the sad *Echo* answers in her turn ;
 And now the Sister-Nymphs prepare his Urn :
 When, looking for his Corps, they only found
 A rising Stalk, with yellow Blossoms crown'd.

The Story of PENTHEUS.

This sad Event gave blind *Tiresias* Fame,
Thro' Greece establish'd in a Prophet's Name.

'Th' unhallow'd *Pentheus* only durst deride
The cheated People, and their eyeless Guide.
To whom the Prophet in his Fury said,
Shaking the hoary Honours of his Head;

" 'Twere well, presumptuous Man, 'twere well for thee

" If thou wert eyeless too, and blind, like me :

" For the Time comes, nay, 'tis already here,

" When the young God's Solemnities appear :

" Which, if thou dost not with just Rites adorn;

" Thy impious Carcass, into Pieces torn,

" Shall strew the Woods, and hang on ev'ry Thorn. }

" Then, then remember what I now foretell,

" And own the blind *Tiresias* saw too well."

Still *Pentheus* scorns him, and derides his Skill;
But Time did all the Prophet's Threats fulfill.

For now thro' prostrate Greece young *Bacchus* rode,
Whilst howling Matrons celebrate the God :

All Ranks and Sexes to his *Orgies* ran,

To mingle in the Pumps, and fill the Train.

When *Pentheus* thus his wicked Rage express'd ;

" What Madness, *Thebians*, has your Souls possess'd ?

" Can hollow Timbrels, can a drunken Shout,

" And the lewd Clamours of a beastly Rout,

" Thus quell your Courage ; can the weak Alarm

" Of Women's Yells those stubborn Souls disarm,

" Whom nor the Sword nor Trumpet e'er could fright,
 " Nor the loud Din and Horror of a Fight ?
 " And you, our Sires, who left your old Abodes,
 " And fix'd in foreign Earth your Country Gods ;
 " Will you without a Stroke your City yield,
 " And poorly quit an undisputed Field ?
 " But you, whose Youth and Vigour should inspire
 " Heroick Warmth, and kindle martial Fire,
 " Whom burnish'd Arms and crested Helmets grace,
 " Not flow'ry Gardens and a painted Face ;
 " Remember him to whom you stand ally'd :
 " The Serpent for his Well of Waters dy'd.
 " He fought the Strong, do you his Courage show,
 " And gain a Conquest o'er a feeble Foe.
 " If *Thebes* must fall, oh might the Fates afford
 " A nobler Doom from Famine, Fire, or Sword.
 " Then might the *Thebans* perish with Renown :
 " But now a beardless Victor sacks the Town,
 " Whom nor the prancing Steed, nor pond'rous Shield,
 " Nor the hack'd Helmet, nor the dusty Field,
 " But the soft Joys of Luxury and Ease,
 " The purple Vests, and flow'ry Garlands please.
 " Stand then aside, I'll make the Counterfeit
 " Renounce his God-head, and confess the Cheat.
 " *Acrisus* from the *Grecian* Walls repell'd
 " This boasted Pow'r ; why then should *Pentheus* yield ?
 " Go quickly drag th' Impostor Boy to me,
 " I'll try the Force of his Divinity."
 Thus did th' audacious Wretch those Rites profane ;
 His Friends dissuade th' audacious Wretch in vain :

In vain his Grandfire urg'd him to give o'er
His impious Threats; the Wretch but raves the more.

So have I seen a River gently glide,
In a smooth Course, and inoffensive Tide:
But if with Dams its Current we restrain,
It bears down all, and foams along the Plain.

But now his Servants came besmear'd with Blood,
Sent by their haughty Prince to seize the God;
The God they found not in the frantick Throng,
But dragg'd a zealous Votary along.

The Mariners transform'd to Dolphins.

Him *Pentheus* view'd with Fury in his Look,
And scarce with-held his Hands, while thus he spoke:
"Vile Slave! whom speedy Vengeance shall pursue,
"And terrify thy base seditious Crew:
"Thy Country and thy Parentage reveal,
"And, why thou join'st in these mad *Orgies*, tell."

The Captive views him with undaunted Eyes,
And, arm'd with inward Innocence, replies.

"From high *Meonia's* rocky Shores I came,
"Of poor Descent, *Acætes* is my Name:
"My Sire was meanly born; no Oxen plough'd
"His fruitful Fields, nor in his Pastures low'd.
"His whole Estate within the Waters lay;
"With Lines and Hooks he caught the finny Prey:
"His Art was all his Livelihood; which he
"Thus with his dying Lips bequeath'd to me:

"In

" In Streams, my Boy, and Rivers take thy Chance ;
 " There swims, said he, thy whole Inheritance.
 " Long did I live on this poor Legacy ;
 " 'Till tir'd with Rocks, and my old native Sky,
 " To Arts of Navigation I inclin'd ;
 " Observ'd the Turns and Changes of the Wind,
 " Learn'd the fit Havens, and began to note
 " The stormy *Hyades*, the rainy *Goat*,
 " The bright *Taygete*, and the shining *Bears*,
 " With all the Sailor's Catalogue of Stars.
 " Once, as by Chance for *Delos* I design'd,
 " My Vessel, driv'n by a strong Gust of Wind,
 " Moor'd in a *Chian* Creek ; a-shore I went,
 " And all the following Night in *Chios* spent.
 " When Morning rose, I sent my Mates to bring
 " Supplies of Water from a neighb'ring Spring,
 " Whilst I the Motion of the Winds explor'd ;
 " Then summon'd in my Crew, and went aboard.
 " *Opheltes* heard my Summons, and with Joy
 " Brought to the Shore a soft and lovely Boy,
 " With more than Female Sweetness in his Look,
 " Whom straggling in the neighb'ring Fields he took.
 " With Fumes of Wine the little Captive glows,
 " And nods with Sleep, and staggers as he goes.
 " I view'd him nicely, and began to trace
 " Each heav'nly Feature, each immortal Grace,
 " And saw Divinity in all his Face," }
 " I know not who, said I, this God should be ;
 " But that he is a God, I plainly see :

“ And

Book III. OVID'S *Metamorphoses*. 111

" And Thou, who-e'er thou art, excuse the Force
 " These Men have us'd ; and oh befriend our Course !
 " Pray not for us, the nimble *Diæys* cry'd,
 " *Diæys*, that could the Main-top Mast betride,
 " And down the Ropes with active Vigour slide. }
 " To the same Purpose old *Eupopeus* spoke,
 " Who overlook'd the Oars, and tim'd the Stroke ;
 " The same the Pilot, and the same the rest ;
 " Such impious Avarice their Souls possess.
 " Nay, Heav'n forbid, that I should bear away
 " Within my Vessel so divine a Prey,
 " Said I ; and stood to hinder their Intent :
 " When *Lycabas*, a Wretch for Murder sent }
 " From *Tuscany*, to suffer Banishment,
 " With his clench'd Fist had struck me over-board,
 " Had not my Hands in falling grasp'd a Cord.
 " His base Confederates the Fact approve ;
 " When *Bacchus* (for 'twas he) begun to move,
 " Wak'd by the Noise and Clamours which they rais'd,
 " And shook his drowsy Limbs, and round him gaz'd :
 " What means this Noise, he cries ; am I betray'd ?
 " Ah, whither, whither must I be convey'd ?
 " Fear not, said *Proreus*, Child, but tell us where
 " You wish to land, and trust our friendly Care."
 " To *Naxos* then direct your Course, said he ;
 " *Naxos* a hospitable Port shall be }
 " To each of you, a joyful Home to me."
 " By ev'ry God, that rules the Sea or Sky,
 " The perjur'd Villains promise to comply,
 " And

" And bid me hasten to unmoor the Ship.
 " With eager Joy I launch into the Deep ;
 " And, heedless of the Fraud, for *Naxos* stand.
 " They whisper oft, and beckon with the Hand,
 " And give me Signs, all anxious for their Prey,
 " To tack about, and steer another Way.
 " Then let some other to my Post succeed,
 " Said I, I'm guiltless of so foul a Deed.
 " What, says *Etbalion*, must the Ship's whole Crew
 " Follow your Humour, and depend on you ?
 " And strait himself he seated at the Prore,
 " And tack'd about, and fought another Shore.

" The beauteous Youth now found himself be-
 tray'd,

" And from the Deck the rising Waves survey'd,
 " And seem'd to weep, and as he wept, he said,
 " And do you thus my easy Faith beguile ?
 " Thus do you bear me to my native Isle ?
 " Will such a Multitude of Men employ
 " Their Strength against a weak defenceless Boy ?"
 " In vain did I the God-like Youth deplore,
 " The more I begg'd, they thwarted me the more.
 " And now by all the Gods in Heav'n that hear
 " This solemn Oath, by *Eacchus*' self I swear,
 " The mighty Miracle that did ensue,
 " Altho' it seems beyond Belief, is true.
 " The Vessel, fix'd and rooted in the Flood,
 " Unmov'd by all the beating Billows stood.
 " In vain the Mariners would plough the Main
 " With Sails unfurl'd, and strike their Oars in vain ;

" Around

" Around their Oars a twining Ivy cleaves,
 " And climbs the Mast, and hides the Cords in Leaves :
 " The Sails are cover'd with a chearful Green,
 " And Berries in the fruitful Canvas seen.
 " Amidst the Waves a sudden Forest rears
 " Its verdant Head, and a new Spring appears.
 " The God we now behold with open'd Eyes ;
 " A Herd of spotted Panthers round him lies
 " In glaring Forms ; the grapy Clusters spread
 " On his fair Brows, and dangle on his Head.
 " And whilst he frowns, and brandishes his Spear,
 " My Mates surpriz'd with Madness or with Fear,
 " Leap'd over-beard ; first perjur'd *Madon* found
 " Rough Scales and Fins his stiff'ning Sides surround ;
 " Ah what, cries one, has thus transform'd thy Look ?
 " Strait his own Mouth grew wider as he spoke ;
 " And now he views himself with like Surprise.
 " Still at his Oar th' industrious *Lybis* plies ;
 " But, as he plies, each busy Arm shrink in,
 " And, by Degrees, is fashion'd to a Fin.
 " Another, as he catches at a Cord,
 " Misses his Arms, and, tumbling over-board,
 " With his broad Fins and forky Tail he laves
 " The rising Surge, and flounces in the Waves.
 " Thus all my Crew transform'd around the Ship,
 " Or dive below, or on the Surface leap,
 " And spout the Waves, and wanton in the Deep. }
 " Full nineteen Sailors did the Ship convey,
 " A Shole of nineteen Dolphins round her play.
 " I only in the proper Shape appear,
 " Speechless with Wonder, and half dead with Fear,
 " 'Till

" 'Till *Bacchus* kindly bid me fear no more.

" With him I landed on the *Cbian* Shore,

" And him shall ever gratefully adore."

" This forging Slave, says *Pentheus*, would prevail

" O'er our just Fury by a far-fetch'd Tale :

" Go, let him feel the Whips, the Swords, the Fire,

" And in the Tortures of the Rack expire."

Th' officious Servants hurry him away,

And the poor Captive in a Dungeon lay.

But whilst the Whips and Tortures are prepar'd,

The Gates fly open, of themselves unbarr'd ;

At Liberty th' unfetter'd Captive stands,

And flings the loosen'd Shackles from his Hands.

The Death of PENTHEUS.

But *Pentheus*, grown more furious than before,

Resolv'd to send his Messengers no more,

But went himself to the distracted Throng,

Where high *Cithæron* echo'd with their Song.

And as the fiery War-horse paws the Ground,

And snorts and trembles at the Trumpet's Sound ;

Transported thus he heard the frantick Rout,

And rav'd and madden'd at the distant Shout.

A spacious Circuit on the Hill there stood,

Level and wide, and skirted round with Wood ;

Here the rash *Pentheus*, with unhallow'd Eyes,

The howling Dames and mystick *Orgies* spies.

His Mother sternly view'd him where he stood,

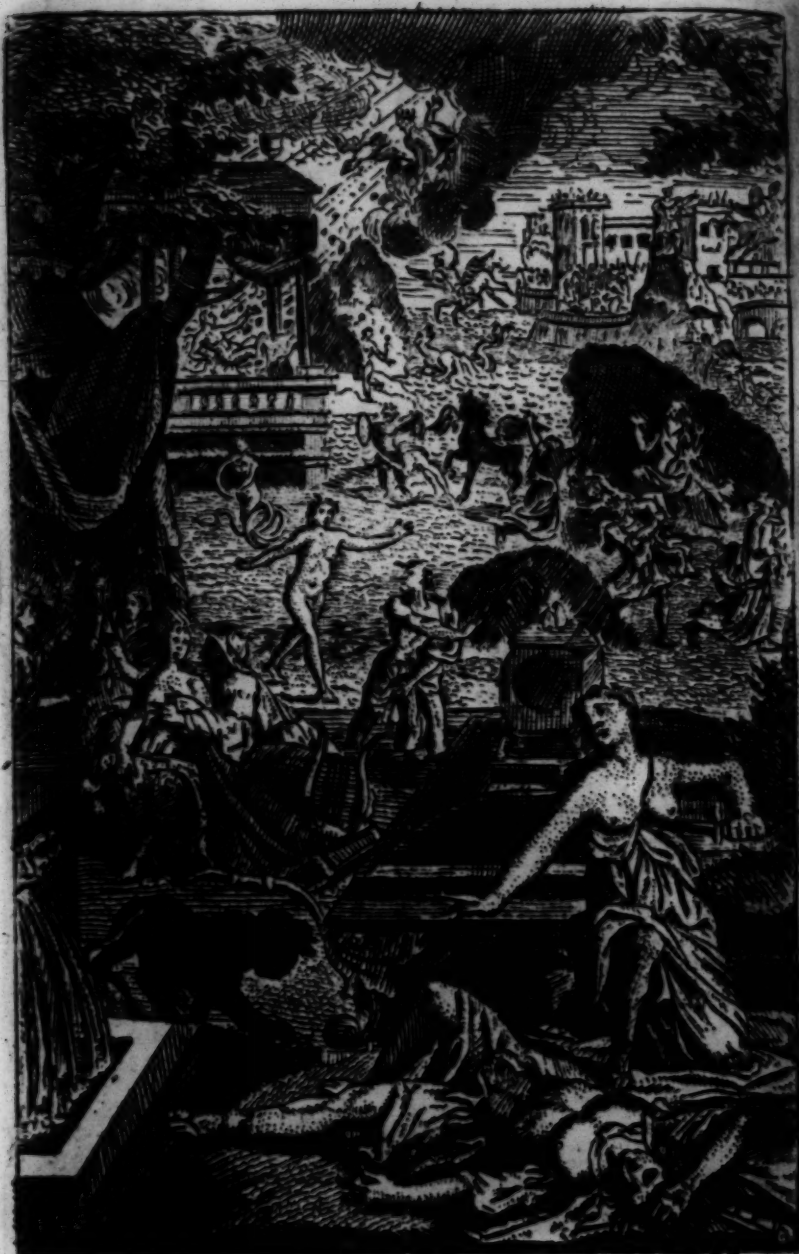
And kindled into Madness as she view'd :

Her

Her leafy Jav'lin at her Son she cast,
And cries, "The Boar that lays our Country waste!
"The Boar, my Sisters! Aim the fatal Dart,
"And strike the brindled Monster to the Heart."

Pentheus astonish'd heard the dismal Sound,
And sees the yelling Matrons gath'ring round;
He sees, and weeps at his approaching Fate,
And begs for Mercy, and repents too late.
"Help, help! my Aunt *Autonoe*, he cry'd;
"Remember how your own *Actæon* dy'd."
Deaf to his Cries, the frantick Matron crops
One stretch'd-out Arm, the other *Ino* lops.
In vain does *Pentheus* to his Mother sue,
And the raw bleeding Stumps presents to View:
His Mother howl'd; and, heedless of his Pray'r,
Her trembling Hand she twisted in his Hair,
"And this, she cry'd, shall be *Agave's* Share,"
When from the Neck his struggling Head she tore,
And in her Hands the ghastly Visage bore.
With Pleasure all the hideous Trunk survey;
Then pull'd and tore the mangled Limbs away,
As starting in the Pangs of Death it lay.
Soon as the Wood its leafy Honours casts,
Blown off and scatter'd by autumnal Blasts,
With such a sudden Death lay *Pentheus* slain,
And in a thousand Pieces strow'd the Plain.
By so distinguishing a Judgment aw'd,
The *Thebans* tremble, and confess the God.

The End of the Third Book.



To the R^t. Hon^{ble}. the
 Countess of  Hartford.
 D. 4.



O V I D's
METAMORPHOSES.
BOOK III.

The Story of ALCITHÖE and her Sisters.

By Mr. E U S D E N.



ET still *Alcithoe* perverse remains,
And *Bacchus* still, and all his Rites, dis-
dains.

Too rash, and madly bold, she bids him
prove

Himself a God, nor owns the Son of *Jove*.

Her Sisters too unanimous agree,

Faithful Associates in Impiety.

Be this a solemn Feast, the Priest had said ;
Be, with each Mistress, unemploy'd each Maid.
With Skins of Beasts your tender Limbs enclose,
And with an ivy-Crown adorn your Brows,

The

The leafy *Thyrus* high in Triumph bear,
And give your Locks to wanton in the Air.

These Rites profan'd, the holy Seer foreshow'd
A mourning People, and a vengeful God.

Matrons and pious Wives Obedience show,
Distaffs, and Wool half spun, away they throw :
Then Incense burn, and, *Bacchus*, thee adore,
Or lov'st thou *Nysus*, or *Lyæus* more ?
O! doubly got, O! doubly born, they sung,
Thou mighty *Bromius*, hail, from Light'ning sprung !
Hail, *Thyon*, *Eleleus* ! each Name is thine :
Or listen, Parent of the genial Vine !
Iachus ! *Evan* ! loudly they repeat,
And not one *Grecian* Attribute forget,
Which to thy Praise, great Deity, belong,
Stil'd justly *Liber* in the *Roman* Song.
Eternity of Youth is thine ! enjoy
Years roll'd on Years, yet still a blooming Boy.
In Heav'n thou shin'st with a superior Grace ;
Conceal thy Horns, and 'tis a Virgin's Face.
Thou taught'st the tawny *Indian* to obey,
And *Ganges*, smoothly flowing, own'd thy Sway :
Lycurgus, *Pentheus*, equally profane,
By thy just Vengeance equally were slain.
By thee the *Tuscans*, who conspir'd to keep
Thee Captive, plung'd, and cut with Fins the Deep.
With painted Reins, all-glitt'ring from afar,
The spotted *Lynxes* proudly draw thy Car.
Around, the *Bacchæ*, and the Satyrs throng,
Behind, *Silenus*, drunk, lags slow along :

On his dull Ass he nods from Side to Side,
Forbears to fall, yet half forgets to ride.
Still at thy near Approach, Applauses loud
Are heard, with Yellings of the Female Crowd:
Timbrels, and boxen Pipes, with mingled Cries,
Swell up in Songs confus'd, and rend the Skies.
Come, *Bacchus*, come propitious, all implore,
And act thy sacred Orgies o'er and o'er.

But *Minus*' Daughters, while these Reits were paid,
At home, impertinently busy, staid.
Their wicked Tasks they ply with various Art,
And thro' the Loom the sliding Shuttle dart;
Or at the Fire to comb the Wool they stand,
Or twirl the Spindle with a dextrous Hand.
Guilty themselves, they force the Guiltless in;
Their Maids, who share the Labour, share the Sin.
At last one Sister cries, who nimbly knew
To draw nice Threads, and wind the finest Clue,
While others idly rove, and Gods revere,
Their fancy'd Gods! they know not who, or where;
Let us, whom *Pallas* taught her better Arts,
Still working, cheer with mirthful Chat our Hearts;
And to deceive the Time, let me prevail
With each by Turns to tell some antique Tale.
She said: her Sisters lik'd the Humour well,
And smiling, bade her the first Story tell.
But she a-while profoundly seem'd to muse,
Perplex'd amid Variety to chuse:
And knew not, whether she should first relate
The poor *Dircetis*, and her wond'rons Fate.

The *Palestines* believe it to a Man,
 And show the Lake, in which her Scales began.
 Or if she rather should the Daughter sing,
 Who in the hoary Verge of Life took Wing;
 Who soar'd from Earth, and dwelt in Tow'rs on high,
 And now a Dove she flits along the Sky.
 Or how lewd *Nais*, when her Lust was cloy'd,
 To Fishes turn'd the Youths, she had enjoy'd,
 By pow'rful Verse, and Herbs; Effect most strange!
 At last the Changer shar'd herself the Change.
 Or how the Tree, which once white Berries bore,
 Still Crimson bears, since stain'd with crimson Gore.
 The Tree was new; she likes it, and begins
 To tell the Tale, and as she tells, she spins.

The Story of PYRAMUS and THISBE.

In *Babylon*, where first her Queen, for State
 Rais'd Walls of Brick magnificently great,
 Liv'd *Pyramus* and *Thisbe*, lovely Pair!
 He found no Eastern Youth his Equal there,
 And she beyond the fairest Nymph was fair.
 A closer Neighbourhood was never known,
 Tho' two the Houses yet the Roof was one.
 Acquaintance grew, th' Acquaintance they improve
 To Friendship, Friendship ripen'd into Love:
 Love had been crown'd, but impotently mad,
 What Parents could not hinder, they forbad.
 For with fierce Flames young *Pyramus* still burn'd,
 And grateful *Thisbe* Flames as fierce return'd.

Aloud

Aloud in Words their Thoughts they dare not break,
 But silent stand ; and silent Looks can speak.
 The Fire of Love the more it is suppress'd,
 The more it glows, and rages in the Breast.

When the Division-wall was built, a Chink
 Was left, the Cement unobserv'd to shrink :
 So slight the Cranny, that it still had been
 For Centuries unclos'd, because unseen.
 But oh ! what Thing so small, so secret lies,
 Which 'scapes, if form'd for Love, a Lover's Eyes ?
 Ev'n in this narrow Chink they quickly found
 A friendly Passage for a trackless Sound.
 Safely they told their Sorrows, and their Joys,
 In whisper'd Murmurs and a dying Noise.
 By Turns to catch each other's Breath they strove,
 And suck'd in all the balmy Breeze of Love.
 Oft as on diff'rent Sides they stood, they cry'd,
 Malicious Wall, thus Lovers to divide !
 Suppose; thou should'st a while to give us Place
 To lock, and fasten in a close Embrace :
 But if too much to grant so sweet a Bliss,
 Indulge at least the Pleasure of a Kiss.
 We scorn Ingratitude : to thee, we know,
 This safe Conveyance of our Minds we owe.

Thus they their vain Petition did renew
 'Till Night, and then they softly sigh'd Adieu.
 But first they strove to kiss, and that was all ;
 Their Kisses dy'd untasted on the Wall.
 Soon as the Morn had o'er the Stars prevail'd,
 And warm'd by *Phabus*, Flow'rs their Dews exhal'd,

The Lovers to their well-known Place return,
 Alike they suffer, and alike they mourn.
 At last their Parents they resolve to cheat,
 (If to deceive in Love be called Deceit)
 To steal by Night from home, and thence unknown
 To seek the Fields, and quit th' unfaithful Town.
 But, to prevent their wand'ring in the Dark,
 They both agree to fix upon a Mark;
 A Mark, that could not their Designs expose:
 The Tomb of *Ninus* was the Mark they chose.
 There they might rest secure beneath the Shade,
 Which Boughs, with snowy Fruit encumber'd, made:
 A wide-spread Mulberry its Rise had took
 Just on the Margin of a gurgling Brook.
 Impatient for the friendly Dusk they stay,
 And chide the Slowness of departing Day;
 In Western Seas down sunk at last the Light,
 From Western Seas up-rose the Shades of Night.
 The loving *Thïsbe* ev'n prevents the Hour,
 With cautious Silence she unlocks the Door,
 And veils her Face, and marching thro' the Gloom
 Swiftly arrives at th' Affignation-Tomb.
 For still the fearful Sex can fearless prove;
 Boldly they act, if spirited by Love.
 When lo! a Lioness rush'd o'er the Plain,
 Grimly besmear'd with Blood of Oxen slain:
 And what to the dire Sight new Horrors brought,
 To slake her Thirst the neighb'ring Spring she fought.
 Which, by the Moon, when trembling *Thïsbe* spies,
 Wing'd with her Fear, swift, as the Wind, she flies;
And

And in a Cave recovers from her Fright,
 But dropp'd her Veil confounded in her Flight:
 When sated with repeated Draughts, again
 The Queen of Beasts scour'd back along the Plain;
 She found the Veil, and mouthing it all o'er,
 With bloody Jaws the lifeless Prey she tore.

The Youth, who could not cheat his Guards so soon,
 Late came, and noted by the glimm'ring Moon
 Some savage Feet, new printed on the Ground,
 His Cheeks turn'd pale, his Limbs no Vigour found:
 But when, advancing on, the Veil he spy'd
 Distain'd with Blood, and ghastly torn, he cry'd,
 One Night shall Death to two young Lovers give,
 But she deserv'd unnumber'd Years to live!
 'Tis I am guilty, I have thee betray'd,
 Who came not early, as my charming Maid.
 Whatever slew thee, I the Cause remain,
 I nam'd, and fix'd the Place where thou wast slain.
 Ye Lions from your neighb'ring Dens repair,
 Pity the Wretch, this impious Body tear!
 But Cowards thus for Death can idly cry;
 The Brave still have it in their Pow'r to die.
 Then to th' appointed Tree he hastes away,
 The Veil first gather'd, tho' all rent it lay:
 The Veil all rent yet still itself endears,
 He kist, and kissing, wash'd it with his Tears.
 Tho' rich (he cry'd) with many a precious Stain,
 Still from my Blood a deeper Tincture gain;
 Then in his Breast his shining Sword he drown'd,
 And fell supine, extended on the Ground.

As out again the Blade he dying drew,
 Out spun the Blood, and streaming upwards flew.
 So if a Conduit-pipe e'er burst you saw,
 Swift spring the gushing Waters thro' the Flaw :
 Then spouting in a Bow, they rise on high,
 And a new Fountain plays amid the Sky.
 The Berries, stain'd with Blood, began to show
 A dark Complexion, and forgot their Snow ;
 While fatten'd with the flowing Gore, the Root
 Was doom'd for ever to a purple Fruit.

Mean Time poor *Thyſte* fear'd, so long she stay'd,
 Her Lover might suspect a perjur'd Maid.
 Her Fright scarce o'er, she strove the Youth to find
 With ardent Eyes, which spoke an ardent Mind.
 Already in his Arms, she hears him sigh
 At her Destruction, which was once so nigh.
 The Tomb, the Tree, but not the Fruit she knew,
 The Fruit she doubted for its alter'd Hue :
 Still as she doubts, her Eyes a Body found
 Quiv'ring in Death, and gasping on the Ground.
 She started back, the Red her Cheeks forsook,
 And ev'ry Nerve with thrilling Horrors shook.
 So trembles the smooth Surface of the Seas,
 If brush'd o'er gently with a rising Breeze.
 But when her View her bleeding Love confest,
 She shriek'd, she tore her Hair, she beat her Breast.
 She rais'd the Body, and embrac'd it round,
 And bath'd with Tears unfeign'd the gaping Wound.
 Then her warm Lips to the cold Face apply'd,
 And is it thus, ah ! thus we meet ! she cry'd,

My

My *Pyramus*! whence sprung thy cruel Fate?

My *Pyramus*!—ah! speak, ere 'tis too late.

I, thy own *Thisbe*, but one Word implore,

One Word thy *Thisbe* never ask'd before:

At *Thisbe*'s Name, awak'd, he open'd wide

His dying Eyes; with dying Eyes he try'd

On her to dwell, but clos'd them slow, and dy'd.

The fatal Cause was now at last explor'd,
Her Veil she knew, and saw his sheathless Sword:
From thy own Hand thy Ruin thou hast found,
She said, but Love first taught that Hand to wound.
Ev'n I for thee as bold a Hand can show,

And Love, which shall as true direct the Blow.

I will against the Woman's Weakness strive,

And never thee, lamented Youth, survive.

The World may say, I caus'd, alas! thy Death,

But saw thee breathless, and resign'd my Breath.

Fate, tho' it conquers, shall no Triumph gain,

Fate, that divides us, still divides in vain.

Now, both our cruel Parents, hear my Pray'r;

My Pray'r to offer for us both I dare;

Oh! see our Ashes in one Urn confin'd,

Whom Love at first, and Fate at last has join'd.

The Bliss, you envy'd, is not our Request;

Lovers, when dead, may sure together rest.

Thou, Tree, where now one lifeless Lump is laid,

Ere long o'er two shalt cast a friendly Shade.

Still let our Loves from thee be understood,

Still witness in thy purple Fruit our Blood.

She spoke, and in her Bosom plung'd the Sword,

All warm and reeking from its slaughter'd Lord.

The Pray'r, which dying *Tisbe* had preferr'd,
Both Gods, and Parents, with Compassion heard.
The Whiteness of the Mulberry soon fled,
And rip'ning, fadden'd in a dusky Red ;
Whilst both their Parents their lost Children mourn,
And mix their Ashes in one golden Urn.

Thus did the melancholy Tale conclude,
And a short, silent Interview ensu'd.
The next in Birth unloos'd her artful Tongue,
And drew attentive all the Sister-Throng.

The Story of LEUCOTHÖE and the SUN.

The Sun, the Source of Light, by Beauty's Pow'r
Once am'rous grew ; then hear the Sun's Amour.
Venus, and *Mars*, with his far-piercing Eyes
This God first spy'd ; this God first all Things spies.
Stung at the Sight, and swift on Mischief bent,
To haughty *Juno*'s shapeless Son he went :
The Goddess, and her God Gallant betray'd,
And told the Cuckold where their Pranks were play'd.
Poor *Vulcan* soon desir'd to hear no more,
He dropp'd his Hammer, and he stook all o'er :
Then Courage takes, and full of vengeful Ire
He heaves the Bellows, and blows fierce the Fire :
From liquid Brass, tho' sure, yet subtle Snares
He forms, and next a wond'rous Net prepares,
Drawn with such curious Art, so nicely fly,
Unseen the Mashes cheat the searching Eye.
Not half so thin their Webs the Spiders weave,
Which the most wary, buzzing Prey deceive.

These

These Chains, obedient to the Touch, he spread
 In secret Foldings o'er the conscious Bed:
 The conscious Bed again was quickly prest
 By the fond Pair, in lawless Raptures blest.
Mars wonder'd at his *Cytherea's* Charms,
 More fast than ever lock'd within her Arms:
 While *Vulcan* th' Iv'ry Doors unbarr'd with Care,
 Then call'd the Gods to view the sportive Pair:
 The Gods throng'd in, and saw in open Day,
 Where *Mars*, and Beauty's Queen, all naked lay.
 O! shameful Sight, if shameful that we name,
 Which Gods with Envy view'd, and could not blame,
 But, for the Pleasure, wish'd to bear the Shame.
 Each Deity, with Laughter tir'd, departs,
 Yet all still laugh'd at *Vulcan* in their Hearts.
 Thro' Heav'n the News of this Surprisal run,
 But *Venus* did not thus forget the Sun.
 He, who stol'n Transports idly had betray'd,
 By a Betrayer was in kind repay'd.
 What now avails, great God, thy piercing Blaze,
 That Youth, and Beauty, and those golden Rays?
 Thou, who canst warm this Universe alone,
 Feel'st now a Warmth more pow'rful than thy own:
 And those bright Eyes, which all Things should survey,
 Know not from fair *Leucothoe* to stray.
 The Lamp of Light, for human Good design'd,
 Is to one Virgin niggardly confin'd.
 Sometimes too early rise thy Eastern Beams,
 Sometimes too late they set in Western Streams:
 'Tis then her Beauty thy swift Course delays,
 And gives to Winter Skies long Summer Days.

Now in thy Face thy love-sick Mind appears,
 And spreads thro' impious Nations empty Fears :
 For when thy beamless Head is wrapt in Night,
 Poor Mortals tremble in despair of Light.
 'Tis not the Moon that o'er thee casts a Veil,
 'Tis Love alone, which makes thy Looks so pale.
Leucothoe is grown thy only Care,
 Not *Phaeton's* fair Mother now is fair.
 The youthful *Rhodos* moves no tender Thought,
 And beauteous *Porfa* is at last forgot.
 Fond *Clytie*, scorn'd, yet lov'd, and sought thy Bed,
 Ev'n then thy Heart for other Virgins bled.
Leucothoe has all thy Soul possess'd,
 And chas'd each rival Passion from thy Breast.
 To this bright Nymph *Eurynome* gave Birth
 In the blest Confines of the spicy Earth.
 Excelling others, she herself beheld
 By her own blooming Daughter far excell'd.
 The Sire was *Orchamus*, whose vast Command,
 The Sev'nth from *Belus*, rul'd the *Perſian* Land.
 Deep in cool Vales, beneath th' *Hesperian* Sky,
 For the Sun's fiery Steeds the Pastures lie.
Ambrosia there they eat, and thence they gain
 New Vigour, and their daily Toils sustain.
 While thus on heav'nly Food the Coursers fed,
 And Night, around, her gloomy Empire spread,
 The God assum'd his Mother's Shape and Air,
 And pass'd, unheeded to his darling Fair.
 Close by a Lamp, with Maids encompass'd round,
 The royal Spinster, full employ'd, he found :

Then

Then cry'd, a-while from Work, my Daughter, rest;
 And, like a Mother, scarce her Lips he prest.
 Servants retire? — nor Secrets dare to hear,
 Intrusted only to a Daughter's Ear.
 They swift obey'd: not one, suspicious, thought
 The Secret, which their Mistress would be taught.
 Then he: since now no Witnesses are near,
 Behold the God, who guides the various Year!
 The World's vast Eye, of Light the Source serene,
 Who all Things sees, by whom are all Things seen.
 Believe me, Nymph, (for I the Truth have show'd)
 Thy Charms have Pow'r to charm so great a God.
 Confus'd, she heard him his soft Passion tell,
 And on the Floor, untwirl'd, the Spindle fell:
 Still from the sweet Confusion some new Grace
 Blush'd out by Stealth, and languish'd in her Face.
 The Lover, now inflam'd, himself put on,
 And out at once the God, all-radiant, shone.
 The Virgin started at his alter'd Form,
 Too weak to bear a God's impetuous Storm:
 No more against the dazzling Youth she strove,
 But silent yielded, and indulg'd his Love.

This *Clytie* knew, and knew she was undone,
 Whose Soul was fix'd, and doated on the Sun.
 She rag'd to think on her neglected Charms,
 And *Phæbus*, panting in another's Arms.
 With envious Madness fir'd, she flies in haste,
 And tells the King his Daughter was unchaste.
 The King, incens'd to hear his Honour stain'd,
 No more the Father nor the Man retain'd.

In vain she stretch'd her Arms, and turn'd her Eyes,
 To her lov'd God, th' Enlightner of the Skies.
 In vain she own'd it was a Crime, yet still
 It was a Crime not acted by her Will.
 The brutal Sire stood deaf to ev'ry Pray'r,
 And deep in Earth entomb'd alive the Fair.
 What *Phæbus* could do, was by *Phæbus* done;
 Full on her Grave with pointed Beams he shone:
 To pointed Beams the gaping Earth gave Way;
 Had the Nymph Eyes, her Eyes had seen the Day,
 But lifeless now, yet lovely still, she lay. }
 Not more the God wept, when the World was fir'd,
 And in the Wreck his blooming Boy expir'd.
 The vital Flame he strives to light again,
 And warm the frozen Blood in ev'ry Vein:
 But since resistless Fates deny'd that Pow'r,
 On the cold Nymph he rain'd a Nectar Show'r.
 Ah! undeserving this (he said) to die,
 Yet still in Odours thou shalt reach the Sky.
 The Body soon dissolv'd, and all around
 Perfum'd with heav'nly Fragrances the Ground;
 A Sacrifice for Gods up-rose from thence,
 A sweet delightful Tree of Frankincense.

The Transformation of CLYTIE.

Tho' guilty *Clytie* thus the Sun betray'd,
 By too much Passion she was guilty made.
 Excess of Love begot Excess of Grief,
 Grief fondly bads her hence to hope Relief.

But angry *Phæbus* hears, unmov'd, her Sighs,
 And scornful from her loath'd Embraces flies.
 All Day, all Night, in trackless Wilds, alone
 She pin'd, and taught the list'ning Rocks her Moan.
 On the bare Earth she lies, her Bosom bare,
 Loose her Attire, dishevell'd is her Hair.
 Nine Times the Morn unbarr'd the Gates of Light,
 As oft were spread th' alternate Shades of Night,
 So long no Sustenance the Mourner knew,
 Unless she drank her Tears, or suck'd the Dew.
 She turn'd about, but rose not from the Ground,
 Turn'd to the Sun, still as he roll'd his Round:
 On his bright Face hung her desiring Eyes,
 'Till fix'd to Earth she strove in vain to rise.
 Her Looks their Paleness in a Flow'r retain'd,
 But here, and there, some purple Streaks they gain'd.
 Still the lov'd Object the fond Leaves pursue,
 Still move their Root, the moving Sun to view,
 And in the *Heliotrope* the Nymph is true.

The Sisters heard these Wonders with Surprise,
 But part receiv'd them as romantic Lies;
 And pertly rally'd, that they could not see
 In Pow'r's Divine so vast an Energy.
 Part own'd, true Gods such Miracles might do,
 But own'd not *Bacchus*, one among the true.
 At last a common, just Request they make,
 And beg *Alciboe* her Turn to take.
 I will (she said) and please you, if I can;
 Then shot her Shuttle swift, and thus began.

The Fate of *Daphnis* is a Fate too known,
 Whom an enamour'd Nymph transform'd to Stone,

Because

Because she fear'd another Nymph might see
 The lovely Youth, and love as much as she:
 So strange the Madness is of Jealousy.
 Nor shall I tell, what Changes *Scydon* made,
 And how he walk'd a Man, or tripp'd a Maid.
 You too would peevish frown, and Patience want
 To hear how *Celmis* grew an Adamant.
 He once was dear to *Jove*, and saw of old
Jove, when a Child; but what he saw, he told.
Crocus and *Smiax* may be turn'd to Flow'rs,
 And the *Curetes* spring from bounteous Show'rs;
 I pass a hundred Legends stale, as these,
 And with sweet Novelty your Taste will please.

*The Story of SALMACIS and HERMA-
 PHRODITUS.*

By Mr. ADDISON.

How *Salmacis*, with weak enfeebling Streams
 Softens the Body, and unnerves the Limbs,
 And what the secret Cause, shall here be shown;
 The Cause is secret, but th' Effect is known.

The *Naiads* nurs'd an Infant heretofore,
 That *Cythrea* once to *Hermes* bore:
 From both th' illustrious Authors of his Race
 The Child was nam'd; nor was it hard to trace
 Both the bright Parents thro' the Infant's Face.
 When fifteen Years in *Ida's* cool Retreat
 The Boy had told, he left his native Seat,
 And sought fresh Fountains in a foreign Soil:
 The Pleasure lessen'd the attending Toil,

With

With eager Steps the *Lycian* Fields he crost,
 And Fields that border on the *Lycian* Coast;
 A River here he view'd so lovely bright,
 It shew'd the Bottom in a fairer Light,
 Nor kept a Sand conceal'd from human Sight.
 The Stream produc'd nor slimy Ooze, nor Weeds,
 Nor miry Rushes, nor the spiky Reeds;
 But dealt enriching Moisture all around,
 The fruitful Banks with chearful Verdure crown'd,
 And kept the Spring Eternal on the Ground.
 A Nymph presides, not practis'd in the Chace,
 Nor skilful at the Bow, nor at the Race;
 Of all the blue-ey'd Daughters of the Main,
 The only Stranger to *Diana's* Train:
 Her Sisters often, as 'tis said, would cry,
 "Fye, *Salmacis*: what, always idle! fye.
 "Or take thy Quiver, or thy Arrows seize,
 "And mix the Toils of Hunting with thy Ease."
 Nor Quiver she, nor Arrows e'er would seize,
 Nor mix the Toils of Hunting with her Ease.
 But oft would bathe her in the Chrystal Tide,
 Oft with a Comb her dewy Locks divide;
 Now in the limpid Streams she views her Face,
 And drest her Image in the floating Glasse:
 On Beds of Leaves she now repos'd her Limbs,
 Now gather'd Flow'rs that grew about her Streams,
 And then by Chance was gathering, as he stood
 To view the Boy, and long'd for what she view'd.

Fain would she meet the Youth with hasty Feet,
 She fain would meet him, but refus'd to meet

Before

Before her Looks were set with nicest Care,
And well deserv'd to be reputed fair.

"Bright Youth, she cries, whom all thy Features prove

"A God, and, if a God, the God of Love;

"But if a Mortal, blest thy Nurse's Breast,

"Blest are thy Parents, and thy Sisters blest :

"But oh how blest ! how more than blest thy Bride,

"Ally'd in Bliss, if any yet ally'd !

"If so, let mine the stol'n Enjoyments be ;

"If not, behold a willing Bride in me." [Shame,

The Boy knew nought of Love, and touch'd with
He strove, and blush'd, but still the Blush became :

In rising Blushes still fresh Beauties rose ;

Then sunny Side of Fruit such Blushes shows ;

And such the Moon, when all her Silver White

Turns in Eclipses to a ruddy Light.

The Nymph still begs, if not a nobler Bliss,

A cold Salute at least, a Sister's Kiss :

And now prepares to take the lovely Boy

Between her Arms. He, innocently coy,

Replies, "Or leave me to myself alone,

"You rude uncivil Nymph, or I'll be gone."

"Fair Stranger then, says she, it shall be so ;"

And, for she fear'd his Threats, she feign'd to go ;

But hid within a Covert's neighb'ring Green,

She kept him still in Sight, herself unseen.

The Boy now fancies all the Danger o'er,

And innocently sports about the Shore,

Playful and wanton to the Stream he trips,

And dips his Foot, and shivers as he dips.

The

The Coolness pleas'd him, and with eager Haste
 His airy Garments on the Banks he cast;
 His Godlike Features, and his heav'nly Hue,
 And all his Beauties were expos'd to View.
 His naked Limbs the Nymph with Rapture spies,
 While hotter Passions in her Bosom rise,
 Flush in her Cheeks, and sparkle in her Eyes.
 She longs, she burns to clasp him in her Arms,
 And looks, and sighs, and kindles at his Charms.

Now all undrest upon the Banks he stood,
 And clapt his Sides, and leapt into the Flood:
 His lovely Limbs the Silver Waves divide,
 His Limbs appear more lovely thro' the Tide;
 As Lilies shut within a crystal Case,
 Receive a glossy Lustre from the Glass,
 He's mine, he's all my own, the *Naiad* cries,
 And flings off all, and after him she flies.
 And now she fastens on him as he swims,
 And holds him close, and wraps about his Limbs.
 The more the Boy resisted, and was coy,
 The more she clipt, and kist the struggling Boy.
 So when the wriggling Snake is snatcht on high
 In *Eagle's* Claws, and hisses in the Sky,
 Around the Foe his twirling Tail he flings,
 And twists her Legs, and wriths about her Wings.

The restless Boy still obdurately strove
 To free himself, and still refus'd her Love.
 Amidst his Limbs she kept her Limbs intwin'd,
 "And why, coy Youth, she cries, why thus unkind!
 "Oh may the Gods thus keep us ever join'd!

" Oh

"Oh may we never, never part again!"

So pray'd the Nymph, nor did she pray in vain:

For now she finds him, as his Limbs she press,

Grow nearer still, and nearer to her Breast;

'Till, piercing each the other's Flesh, they run

Together, and incorporate in One:

Last in one Face are both their Faces join'd,

As when the Stock and grafted Twig combin'd

Shoot up the same, and wear a common Rind:

Both Bodies in one single Body mix,

And single Body with a double Sex.

The Boy, thus lost in Woman, now survey'd

The River's guilty Stream, and thus he pray'd.

(He pray'd, but wonder'd at his softer Tone,

Surpriz'd to hear a Voice but half his own.)

You Parent-Gods, whose heav'nly Names I bear,

Hear your *Hermaphrodite*, and grant my Pray'r;

Oh grant, that whomsoever these Streams contain

If Man he enter'd, he may rise again

Supple, unfinew'd, and but half a Man!

The heav'nly Parents answer'd from on high,

Their two-shap'd Son, the double Votary;

Then gave a secret Virtue to the Flood,

And ting'd its Source to make his Wishes good.

Continued by Mr. EUSDEN.

ALCITHOE and her Sisters transform'd to
Bats.

But *Minus'* Daughters still their Tasks pursue,

To Wickedness most obstinately true?

At *Bacchus* still they laugh, when all around,
Unseen, the *Timbrils* hoarse were heard to sound.
Saffron and *Myrrh* their fragrant Odours shed,
And now the present Deity they dread.
Strange to relate! Here *Ivy* first was seen,
Along the *Distaff* crept the wond'rous *Green*.
Then sudden-springing *Vines* began to bloom,
And the soft *Tendrils* curl'd around the *Loom*:
While purple *Clusters*, dangling from on high,
Ting'd the wrought *Purple* with a second *Dye*.

Now from the *Skies* was shot a doubtful *Light*,
The *Day* declining to the *Bounds* of *Night*.
The *Fabrick's* firm *Foundations* shake all o'er,
False Tigers rage, and figur'd *Lions* roar.
Torches, aloft, seem blazing in the *Air*,
And angry *Flashes* of red *Light'nings* glare.
To dark *Recesses*, the dire *Sight* to shun,
Swift the pale *Sisters* in *Confusion* run.
Their *Arms* were lost in *Pinions*, as they fled,
And subtle *Films* each slender *Limb* o'erspread.
Their alter'd *Forms* their *Senses* soon reveal'd;
Their *Forms*, how alter'd, *Darkness* still conceal'd.
Close to the *Roof* each, wond'ring, upwards springs,
Borne on unknown, transparent, plumeless *Wings*.
They strove for *Words*; their little *Bodies* found
No *Words*, but murmur'd in a fainting *Sound*.
In *Towns*, not *Woods*, the sooty *Bats* delight,
And, never, 'till the *Dusk*, begin their *Flight*;
'Till *Vesper* rises with his *Ev'ning* *Flame*,
From whom the *Romans* have deriv'd their *Name*.

The

*The Transformation of INO and MELI-
CERTA to Sea-Gods.*

The Pow'r of *Bacchus* now o'er *Thebes* had flown:
 With awful Rev'rence soon the God they own.
 Proud *Ino*, all around the Wonder tells,
 And on her Nephew Deity still dwells.
 Of num'rous Sisters, she alone yet knew
 No Grief, but Grief, which she from Sisters drew.

Imperial *Juno* saw her with Disdain,
 Vain in her Offspring, in her Consort vain,
 Who rul'd the trembling *Thebans* with a Nod,
 But saw her vainest in her Foster-God.
 Could then (she cry'd) a Bastard-Boy have Pow'r
 To make a Mother her own Son devour?
 Could he the *Tuscan* Crew to Fishes change,
 And now three Sisters damn to Forms so strange?
 Yet shall the Wife of *Jove* find no Relief?
 Shall she, still unreveng'd, disclose her Grief?
 Have I the mighty Freedom to complain?
 Is that my Pow'r? Is that to ease my Pain?
 A Foe has taught me Vengeance; and who ought
 To scorn that Vengeance, which a Foe has taught?
 What sure Destruction frantick Rage can throw,
 The gaping Wounds of slaughter'd *Pentheus* show.
 Why should not *Ino*, fir'd with Madness, stray,
 Like her mad Sisters her own Kindred slay?
 Why, she not follow, where they lead the Way?
 Down a steep, yawning Cave, where Yews display'd
 In Arches meet, and lend a baleful Shade,

Thro'

Thro' silent Labyrinths a Passage lies
 To mournful Regions, and infernal Skies.
 Here *Syx* exhales its noisome Clouds, and here,
 The fun'ral Rites once paid, all Souls appear.
 Stiff Cold, and Horror with a ghastly Face
 And staring Eyes, infest the dreary Place.
 Ghosts, new-arriv'd, and Strangers to these Plains,
 Know not the Palace, where grim *Pluto* reigns.
 They journey doubtful, nor the Road can tell,
 Which leads to the Metropolis of Hell.
 A thousand Avenues those Tow'rs command,
 A thousand Gates for ever open stand.
 As all the Rivers, disembogu'd, find Room
 For all their Waters in old Ocean's Womb:
 So this vast City Worlds of Shades receives,
 And Space for Millions still of Worlds she leaves.
 Th' unbodiy'd Spectres freely rove, and show
 Whate'er they lov'd on Earth, they love below.
 The Lawyers still, or right, or wrong, support,
 The Courtiers smoothly glide to *Pluto's* Court.
 Still airy Heroes Thoughts of Glory fire,
 Still the dead Poet strings his deathless Lyre,
 And Lovers still with fancy'd Darts expire.

The Queen of Heav'n to gratify her Hate,
 And sooth immortal Wrath, forgets her State.
 Down from the Realms of Day, to Realms of Night,
 The Goddess swift precipitates her Flight.
 At Hell arriv'd, the Noise Hell's Porter heard,
 Th' enormous Dog his triple Head up-rear'd:

Thrice

Thrice from three grizly Throats he howl'd profound,
 Then suppliant couch'd, and stretch'd along the Ground,
 The trembling Threshold, which *Saturnia* prest,
 The Weight of such Divinity confest.

Before a lofty, adamant Gate,
 Which clos'd a Tow'r of Brass, the Furies sate:
 Mis-shapen Forms, tremendous to the Sight,
 Th' implacable foul Daughters of the Night.
 A sounding Whip each bloody Sister shakes,
 Or from her Tresses combs the curling Snakes.
 But now great *Juno's* Majesty was known;
 Thro' the thick Gloom, all heav'nly bright, she shone:
 The hideous Monsters their Obedience show'd,
 And rising from their Seats, submissive bow'd.

This is the Place of Woe, here groan the Dead;
 Huge *Tityus* o'er nine Acres here is spread.
 Fruitful for Pain th' immortal Liver breeds,
 Still grows, and still th' insatiate Vulture feeds.
 Poor *Tantalus* to taste the Water tries,
 But from his Lips the faithless Water flies:
 Then thinks the bending Tree he can command,
 The Tree starts backwards, and eludes his Hand.
 The Labour too of *Sisyphus* is vain,
 Up the steep Mount he heaves the Stone with Pain,
 Down from the Summit rolls the Stone again. }
 The *Belides* their leaky Vessels still,
 Are ever lling, and yet never fill;
 Doom'd to this Punishment for Blood they shed,
 For Bridegrooms slaughter'd in the bridal Bed.

Stretch'd

Stretch'd on the rolling Wheel *Ixion* lies ;
 Himself he follows, and himself he flies.
Ixion, tortur'd; *Juno* sternly ey'd,
 Then turn'd, and toiling *Sisyphus* espy'd :
 And why (she said) so wretched is the Fate
 Of him, whose Brother proudly reigns in State?
 Yet still my Altars unador'd have been
 By *Atamas*, and his presumptuous Queen.

What caus'd her Hate, the Goddess thus confess,
 What caus'd her Journey now was more than guest.
 That Hate, relentless, its Revenge did want,
 And that Revenge the Furies soon could grant :
 They could the Glory of proud *Thebes* efface,
 And hide in Ruin the *Cadmean* Race.
 For this she largely promises, intreats,
 And to Intreaties adds imperial Threats.

Then fell *Tisiphone* with Rage was stung,
 And from her Mouth th' untwisted Serpents flung.
 To gain this trifling Boon, there is no Need
 (She cry'd) in formal Speeches to proceed.
 Whatever thou command'st to do, is done ;
 Believe it finish'd, tho' not yet begun :
 But from these melancholy Seats repair
 To happier Mansions, and to purer Air.
 She spoke : the Goddess, darting upwards, flies,
 And joyous re-ascends her native Skies :
 Nor enter'd there, till round her *Iris* threw
 Ambrosial Sweets, and pour'd celestial Dew.

The faithful Fury, guiltless of Delays,
 With cruel Haste the dire Command obeys.

Girt in a bloody Gown, a Torch she shakes,
 And round her Neck twines speckled Wreaths of Snakes.
 Fear, and Dismay, and agonizing Pain,
 With frantick Rage, compleat her loveless Train.
 To *Thebes* her Flight she sped, and Hell forlook;
 At her Approach the *Theban* Turrets shook:
 The Sun shrunk back, thick Clouds the Day o'ercast,
 And springing Greens were wither'd as she past.

Now, dismal Yellings heard, strange Spectres seen,
 Confound as much the Monarch as the Queen.
 In vain to quit the Palace they prepar'd,
Tisiphone was there, and kept the Ward.
 She wide extended her unfriendly Arms,
 And all the Fury lavish'd all her Harms.
 Part of her Tresses loudly hiss, and Part
 Spread Poison, as their forked Tongues they dart,
 Then from her middle Locks two Snakes she drew,
 Whose Merit from superior Mischief grew:
 Th' envenom'd Ruin, thrown with spiteful Care,
 Clung to the Bosoms of the hapless Pair.
 The hapless Pair soon with wild Thoughts were fir'd,
 And Madness, by a thousand Ways inspir'd.
 'Tis true, th' unwounded Body still was sound,
 But 'twas the Soul which felt the deadly Wound.
 Nor did th' unfated Monster here give o'er,
 But dealt of Plagues afresh, unnumber'd Store.
 Each baneful Juice too well she understood,
 Foam, churn'd by *Cerberus*, and *Hydra's* Flood.
 Hot Hemlock, and cold Aconite she chose,
 Delighted in Variety of Woes.

Whatever

Whatever can untune th' harmonious Soul,
And its mild, reas'ning Faculties controul,
Give false Ideas, raise Desires profane,
And whirl in Eddies the tumultuous Brain,
Mix'd with curs'd Art, she direfully around
Thro' all their Nerves diffus'd the sad Compound.
Then toss'd her Torch in Circles still the same,
Improv'd their Rage, and added Flame to Flame.
The grinning Fury her own Conquest spy'd,
And to her rueful Shades return'd with Pride,
And threw th' exhausted, useless Snakes aside.

Now *Atamas* cries out, his Reason fled,
Here, Fellow-hunters, let the Toils be spread.
I saw a Lioness, in quest of Food,
With her two young, run roaring in this Wood.
Again the fancy'd Savages were seen,
As thro' his Palace still he chac'd his Queen;
Then tore *Learchus* from her Breast: the Child
Stretch'd little Arms, and on its Father smil'd:
A Father now no more, who now begun
Around his Head to whirl his giddy Son,
And, quite insensible to Nature's Call,
The helpless Infant flung against the Wall.
The same mad Poison in the Mother wrought,
Young *Melicerta* in her Arms she caught,
And with disorder'd Tresses, howling, flies,
O! *Bacchus*, *Evoe*, *Bacchus*! loud she cries.
The Name of *Bacchus*, *Juno* laugh'd to hear,
And said, thy Foster-God has cost thee dear.

A Rock there stood, whose Side the beating Waves
Had long consum'd, and hollow'd into Caves.

The Head shot forwards in a bending Steep,
 And cast a dreadful Covert o'er the Deep.
 The wretched *Ino*, on Destruction bent,
 Climb'd up the Cliffs; such Strength her Fury lent:
 Thence with her guiltless Boy, who wept in vain,
 At one bold Spring she plung'd into the Main.

Her Niece's Fate touch'd *Cytherea*'s Breast,
 And in soft Sounds she *Neptune* thus address'd.
 Great God of Waters, whose extended Sway
 Is next to his, whom Heav'n and Earth obey:
 Let not the Suit of *Venus* thee displease,
 Pity the Floaters on th' *Ionian* Seas.
 Increase thy Subject-Gods, nor yet disdain
 To add my Kindred to that glorious Train.
 If from the Sea I may such Honours claim,
 If 'tis Desert, that from the Sea I came,
 As *Grecian* Poets artfully have sung,
 And in the Name confess from whence I sprung.

Pleas'd *Neptune* nodded his Assent, and free
 Both soon became from frail Mortality.
 He gave them Form, and Majesty Divine,
 And bade them glide along the foamy Brine.
 For *Melicerta* is *Palæmon* known,
 And *Ino* once, *Leucothoe* is grown.

The Transformation of the THEBAN Matrons.

The *Theban* Matrons their lov'd Queen pursu'd,
 And tracing to the Rock, her Footsteps view'd.
 Too certain of her Fate, they rend the Skies
 With piteous Shrieks, and lamentable Cries.

All beat their Breasts, and *Juno* all upbraid,
 Who still remember'd a deluded Maid :
 Who, still revengeful for one stol'n Embrace,
 Thus wreak'd her Hate on the *Cadmean* Race.
 This *Juno* heard ; and shall such Elfs, she cry'd,
 Dispute my Justice, or my Pow'r deride ?
 You too shall feel my Wrath not idly spent ;
 A Goddess never was for Insults meant.

She, who lov'd most, and who most lov'd had been,
 Said, not the Waves shall part me from my Queen.
 She strove to plunge into the roaring Flood ;
 Fix'd to the Stone, a Stone herself she stood.
 This, on her Breast would fain her Blows repeat,
 Her stiffen'd Hands refus'd her Breast to beat.
 That, stretch'd her Arms unto the Seas ; in vain
 Her Arms she labour'd to unstretch again.
 To tear her comely Locks another try'd,
 Both comely Locks and Fingers petrify'd.
 Part thus ; but *Juno* with a softer Mind
 Part doom'd to mix among the feather'd Kind.
 Transform'd, the Name of *Theban* Birds they keep,
 And skim the Surface of that fatal Deep.

*CADMUS and his QUEEN transform'd to
 Serpents.*

Mean-time, the wretched *Cadmus* mourns, nor knows
 That they who mortal fell, immortal rose.
 With a long Series of new Ills oppress'd,
 He droops, and all the Man forsakes his Breast.

Strange Prodigies confound his frighted Eyes,
 From the fair City, which he rais'd, he flies:
 As if Misfortune not pursued his Race,
 But only hung o'er that devoted Place.
 Resolv'd by Sea to seek some distant Land,
 At last he safely gain'd th' *Illyrian* Strand.
 Cheerless himself, his Consort still he chears,
 Hoary, and loaden'd both with Woes and Years.
 Then to recount past Sorrows they begin,
 And trace them to the gloomy Origin.
 That Serpent sure was hallow'd, *Cadmus* cry'd,
 Which once my Spear transfix'd with foolish Pride;
 When the big Teeth, a Seed before unknown,
 By me along the wond'ring Glebe were sown,
 And sprouting Armies by themselves o'erthrown. }
 If thence the Wrath of Heav'n on me is bent,
 May Heav'n conclude it with one sad Event;
 To an extended Serpent change the Man:
 And while he spoke the wish'd-for Change began.
 His Skin with sea-green Spots was vary'd round,
 And on his Belly prone he press'd the Ground.
 He glitter'd soon with many a golden Scale,
 And his shrunk Legs clos'd in a spiral Tail.
 Arms yet remain'd, remaining Arms he spread
 To his lov'd Wife, and human Tears yet shed.
 Come, my *Harmonia*, come, thy Face recline
 Down to my Face; still touch, what still is mine.
 O! let these Hands, while Hands, be gently prest,
 While yet the Serpent has not all possess.

More

More he had spoke, but strove to speak in vain,
The forky Tongue refus'd to tell his Pain,
And learn'd in Hissings only to complain.

Then shriek'd *Harmonia*, Stay, my *Cadmus*, stay,
Glide not in such a monstrous Shape away!
Destruction, like impetuous Waves, rolls on.
Where are thy Feet, thy Legs, thy Shoulders gone?
Chang'd is thy Visage, chang'd is all thy Frame;
Cadmus is only *Cadmus* now in Name.
Ye Gods, my *Cadmus* to himself restore,
Or me like him transform, I ask no more.

The Husband Serpent show'd he still had Thought,
With wonted Fondness an Embrace he sought;
Play'd round her Neck in many a harmless Twist,
And lick'd that Bosom, which, a Man, he kist.
The Lookers-on (for Lookers-on there were)
Shock'd at the Sight, half-dy'd away with Fear.
The Transformation was again renew'd,
And, like the Husband, chang'd the Wife they view'd.
Both, Serpents now, with Fold involv'd in Fold,
To the next Covert amicably roll'd.
There curl'd they lie, or wave along the Green,
Fearless see Men, by Men are fearless seen,
Still mild, and conscious what they once have been.

The Story of PERSEUS.

Yet tho' this harsh, inglorious Fate they found,
Each in the deathless Grandson liv'd renown'd.
Thro' conquer'd *India Bacchus* nobly rode,
And *Greece* with Temples hail'd the conqu'ring God.

In *Argos* only proud *Acrisus* reign'd,
 Who all the consecrated Rites profan'd.
 Audacious Wretch! thus *Bacchus* to deny,
 And the great Thunderer's great Son defy!
 Nor him alone: thy Daughter vainly strove,
 Brave *Perseus* of Celestial Stem to prove,
 And herself pregnant by a golden *Jove*.
 Yet this was true, and Truth in Time prevails,
Acrisus now his Unbelief bewails.
 His former Thought, an impious Thought he found,
 And both the Hero, and the God were own'd.
 He saw, already one in Heav'n was plac'd,
 And one with more than mortal Triumphs grac'd.
 The Victor *Perseus* with the *Gorgon*-head,
 O'er *Libyan* Sands his airy Journey sped.
 The gory Drops distill'd, as swift he flew,
 And from each Drop envenom'd Serpents grew.
 The Mischiefs brooded on the barren Plains,
 And still th' unhappy Fruitfulness remains.

ATLAS transform'd to a Mountain.

Thence *Perseus*, like a Cloud, by Storms was driven,
 Thro' all th' Expanse beneath the Cope of Heav'n.
 The jarring Winds unable to controul,
 He saw the Southern, and the Northern Pole:
 And Eastward thrice, and Westward thrice was whirl'd,
 And from the Skies survey'd the nether World.
 But when grey Ev'ning show'd the Verge of Night,
 He fear'd in Darkness to pursue his Flight.

He

He pois'd his Pinions, and forgot to soar,
 And sinking, clos'd them on th' *Hesperian* Shore :
 Then begg'd to rest, 'till *Lucifer* begun
 To wake the Morn, the Morn to wake the Sun.

Here *Atlas* reign'd, of more than human Size,
 And in his Kingdom the World's Limit lies.
 Here *Titan* bids his weary'd Coursers sleep,
 And cools the burning Axle in the Deep.
 The mighty Monarch, uncontroul'd, alone,
 His Sceptre sways ; no neighb'ring States are known.
 A thousand Flocks on shady Mountains fed,
 A thousand Herds o'er grassy Plains were spread.
 Here wond'rous Trees their shining Stores unfold,
 Their shining Stores too wond'rous to be told,
 Their Leaves, their Branches, and their Apples, Gold. }
 Then *Perseus* the gigantick Prince address'd,
 Humbly implor'd a hospitable Rest.
 If bold Exploits thy Admiration fire,
 He said, I fancy, mine thou wilt admire.
 Or if the Glory of a Race can move,
 Not mean my Glory, for I spring from *Jove*.
 At this Confession *Atlas* ghastly star'd,
 Mindful of what an Oracle declar'd,
 That the dark Womb of Time conceal'd a Day,
 Which should, disclos'd, the bloomy Gold betray :
 All should at once be ravish'd from his Eyes,
 And *Jove's* own Progeny enjoy the Prize.
 For this, the Fruit he loftily immur'd,
 And a fierce Dragon the strait Pass secur'd.
 For this, all Strangers he forbad to land,
 And drove them from th' inhospitable Strand.

To *Perseus* then : Fly quickly, fly this Coast,
 Nor falsely dare thy Acts and Race to boast.
 In vain the Hero for one Night entreats,
 Threat'ning he storms, and next adds Force to Threats.
 By Strength not *Perseus* could himself defend,
 For who in Strength with *Atlas* could contend ?
 But since short Rest to me thou wilt not give,
 A Gift of endless Rest from me receive.
 He said, and backward turn'd, no more conceal'd
 The Present, and *Medusa's* Head reveal'd.
 Soon the high *Atlas* a high Mountain flood,
 His Locks and Beard became a leafy Wood.
 His Hands and Shoulders into Ridges went,
 The Summit-head still crown'd the steep Ascent.
 His Bones a solid, rocky Hardness gain'd :
 He, thus immensely grown, (as Fate ordain'd)
 The Stars, the Heav'ns, and all the Gods sustain'd. }

ANDROMEDA rescued from the Sea-Monster.

Now *Aeolus* had with strong Chains confin'd,
 And deep imprison'd ev'ry blust'ring Wind,
 The rising *Phosphor* with a purple Light
 Did fluggish Mortals to new Toils invite.
 His Feet again the valiant *Perseus* plumes,
 And his keen Sabre in his Hand resumes ;
 Then nobly spurns the Ground, and upwards springs,
 And cuts the liquid Air with sounding Wings.
 O'er various Seas, and various Lands he past,
 'Till *Aethiopa's* Shore appear'd at last.

Andro-

Andromeda was there, doom'd to atone
 By her own Ruin Follies not her own:
 And if Injustice in a God can be,
 Such was the *Lybian* God's unjust Decree.
 Chain'd to a Rock she stood; young *Persus* stay'd
 His rapid Flight, to view the beauteous Maid.
 So sweet her Frame, so exquisitely fine,
 She seem'd a Statue by a Hand Divine,
 Had not the Wind her waving Tresses show'd,
 And down her Cheeks the melting Sorrows flow'd.
 Her faultless Form the Hero's Bosom fires;
 The more he looks, the more he still admires.
 Th' Admirer almost had forgot to fly,
 And swift descended, flutt'ring from on high.
 O! Virgin, worthy no such Chains to prove,
 But pleasing Chains in the soft Folds of Love;
 Thy Country, and thy Name (he said) disclose,
 And give a true Rehearsal of thy Woes.

A quick Reply her Bashfulness refus'd,
 To the free Converse of a Man unus'd.
 Her rising Blushes had Concealment found
 From her spread Hands, but that her Hands *were bound.*
 She acted to her full Extent of Pow'r,
 And bath'd her Face with a fresh, silent *Show'r.*
 But by Degrees in Innocence grown bold,
 Her Name, her Country, and her Birth *she told:*
 And how she suffer'd for a Mother's *Jride,*
 Who with the *Nereids* once in Beauty *vy'd.*
 Part yet untold, the Seas began to *roar,*
 And mounting Billows tumbled *to the Shore.*

Above the Waves a Monster rais'd his Head,
 His Body o'er the Deep was widely spread :
 Onward he flounc'd ; aloud the Virgin cries ;
 Each Parent to her Shrieks in Shrieks replies :
 But she had deepest Cause to rend the Skies.
 Weeping, to her they cling ; no Sign appears
 Of Help, they only lend their helpless Tears.
 Too long you vent your Sorrows, *Perseus* said,
 Short is the Hour, and swift the Time of Aid,
 In me the Son of thund'ring *Jove* behold,
 Got in a kindly Show'r of fruitful Gold.
Medusa's Snaky Head is now my Prey,
 And thro' the Clouds I boldly wing my Way.
 If such Desert be worthy of Esteem,
 Add, if your Daughter I from Death redeem,
 Shall she be mine ? Shall it not then be thought,
 A Bride, so lovely, was too cheaply bought ?
 For her my Arms I willingly employ,
 If I may Beauties, which I save, enjoy.
 The Parents eagerly the Terms embrace ;
 For who would slight such Terms in such a Case ?
 Not her alone they promise, but beside,
 The Dowry of a Kingdom with the Bride.

As well-rigg'd Gallies, which Slaves, sweating, row,
 With their sharp Beaks the whiten'd Ocean plough ;
 So when the Monster mov'd, still at his Back
 The furrow'd Waters left a foamy Track.
 Now to the Rock he was advanc'd so nigh,
 Whirl'd from a Sling a Stone the Space would fly.
 Then bounding, upwards the brave *Perseus* sprung,
 And in mid Air on hov'ring Pinions hung.

His

His Shadow quickly floated on the Main;
The Monster could not his wild Rage restrain,
But at the floating Shadow leap'd in vain. }
As when *Jove's* Bird, a speckled Serpent spies,
Which in the Shine of *Phæbus* basking lies,
Unseen, he souses down, and bears away,
Truss'd from behind, the vainly hissing Prey.
To writh his Neck the Labour nought avails,
Too deep th' imperial Talons pierce his Scales.
Thus the wing'd Hero now descends, now soars,
And at his Pleasure the vast Monster gores.
Full in his Back, swift stooping from above,
The crooked Sabre to its Hilt he drove.
The Monster rag'd, impatient of the Pain,
First bounded high, and then sunk low again.
Now, like a savage Boar, when chaf'd with Wounds,
And bay'd with op'ning Mouths of hungry Hounds,
He on the Foe turns with collected Might,
Who still eludes him with an airy Flight;
And wheeling round, the scaly Armour tries
Of his thick Sides; his thinner Tail now plies:
'Till from repeated Strokes out gush'd a Flood,
And the Waves redden'd with the streaming Blood.
At last the dropping Wings, befoam'd all o'er,
With flaggy Heaviness their Master bore:
A Rock he spy'd, whose humble Head was low,
Bare at an Ebb, but cover'd at a Flow.
A ridgy Hold, he, thither flying gain'd,
And with one Hand his bending Weight sustain'd;
With th' other, vig'rous Blows he dealt around,
And the Home-thrusts th' expiring Monster own'd.

In deaf'ning Shouts the glad Applauses rise,
 And Peal on Peal runs rattling thro' the Skies.
 The Saviour-Youth the Royal Pair confess, [blefs.
 And with heav'd Hands their Daughter's Bridegroom
 The beauteous Bride moves on, now loos'd from Chains,
 The Cause, and sweet Reward of all the Hero's Pains.

Mean-time, on Shore triumphant *Perseus* stood,
 And purg'd his Hands, smear'd with the Monster's Blood:
 Then in the Windings of a sandy Bed
 Compos'd *Medusa's* execrable Head.

But to prevent the Roughness, Leaves he threw,
 And young, green Twigs, which soft in Waters grew,
 There soft, and full of Sap; but here, when lay'd,
 Touch'd by the Head, that Softness soon decay'd.

The wonted Flexibility quite gone,
 The tender Scyons harden'd into Stone.

Fresh, juicy Twigs, surpriz'd, the *Nereids* brought,
 Fresh, juicy Twigs the same Contagion caught.

The Nymphs the petrifying Seeds still keep,
 And propagate the Wonder thro' the Deep.

The pliant Sprays of Coral yet declare

Their stiff'ning Nature, when expos'd to Air.

Those Sprays which did, like bending Osiers, move,
 Snatch'd from their Element, obdurate prove,
 And Shrubs beneath the Waves, grow Stones above. }

The great Immortals grateful *Perseus* prais'd,

And to three Pow'rs three turfy Altars rais'd.

To *Hermes* this; and that he did assign

To *Pallas*: the mid Honours, *Jove*, were thine.

He hastes for *Pallas* a white Cow to cull,

A Calf for *Hermes*, but for *Jove* a Bull.

Then

Then seiz'd the Prize of his victorious Fight,
Andromeda, and claim'd the nuptial Rite.

Andromeda alone he greatly fought,
 The Dowry Kingdom was not worth his Thought.

Pleas'd *Hymen* now his golden Torch displays;
 With rich Oblations fragrant Altars blaze,
 Sweet Wreaths of choicest Flow'rs are hung on high,
 And cloudless Pleasure smiles in ev'ry Eye.

The melting Musick melting Thoughts inspires,
 And warbling Songsters aid the warbling Lyres.

The Palace opens wide in pompous State,
 And by his Peers surrounded, *Cepheus* fate.

A Feast was serv'd, fit for a King to give,
 And fit for God-like Heroes to receive.

The Banquet ended, the gay, chearful Bowl
 Mov'd round, and brighten'd, and enlarg'd each Soul.

Then *Perseus* ask'd, what Customs there obtain'd,
 And by what Laws the People were restrain'd.

Which told; the Teller a like Freedom takes,
 And to the Warrior his Petition makes,

To know, what Arts had won *Medusa's* Snakes. }

The Story of MEDUSA's Head.

The Hero with his just Request complies,
 Shows, how a Vale beneath cold *Atlas* lies,
 Where, with aspiring Mountains fenc'd around,
 He the two Daughters of old *Phorcus* found.
 Fate had one common Eye to both assign'd,
 Each saw by Turns, and each by Turns was blind.

But

But while one strove to lend her Sister Sight,
 He stretch'd his Hand, and stole their mutual Light,
 And left both eyeless, both involv'd in Night. }

Thro' devious Wilds, and trackless Woods he past,
 And at the *Gorgon*-Seats arriv'd at last :

But as he journey'd, pensive he survey'd,
 What wasteful Havock dire *Medusa* made.

Here, stood still breathing Statues, Men before ;

There, rampant Lions seem'd in Stone to roar.

Nor did he, yet affrighted, quit the Field,

But in the Mirror of his polish'd Shield

Reflected saw *Medusa* Slumbers take,

And not one Serpent by good Chance awake.

Then backward an unerring Blow he sped,

And from her Body lopp'd at once her Head.

The Gore prolifick prov'd ; with sudden Force

Sprung *Pegasus*, and wing'd his airy Course.

The Heav'n-born Warrior faithfully went on,

And told the num'rous Dangers which he run ;

What subject Seas, what Lands he had in view,

And nigh what Stars th' advent'rous Hero flew.

At last he silent fate ; the list'ning Throng

Sigh'd at the Pause of his delightful Tongue.

Some begg'd to know, why this alone should wear,

Of all the Sisters, such destructive Hair.

Great *Perseus* then : with me you shall prevail,

Worth the Relation, to relate a Tale.

Medusa once had Charms ; to gain her Love

A rival Crowd of envious Lovers strove.

They, who have seen her, own, they ne'er did trace

More moving Features in a sweeter Face.

Yet

Yet above all, her Length of Hair, they own,
In golden Ringlets wav'd, and graceful shone.
Her *Neptune* saw, and with such Beauties fir'd,
Resolv'd to compass what his Soul desir'd.
In chaste *Minerva's* Fane, he, lustful, staid,
And seiz'd, and rifled the young, blushing Maid.
The bashful Goddess turn'd her Eyes away,
Nor durst such bold Impurity survey ;
But on the ravish'd Virgin Vengeance takes,
Her shining Hair is chang'd to hissing Snakes.
These in her *Ægis Pallas* joys to bear,
The hissing Snakes her Foes more sure ensnare,
Than they did Lovers once, when shining Hair.

The End of the Fourth Book.



THE OYSTER

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IN THE CITY OF ALBANY

IN THE YEAR 1850

BY J. H. HARRIS

ALBANY: J. H. HARRIS

1850

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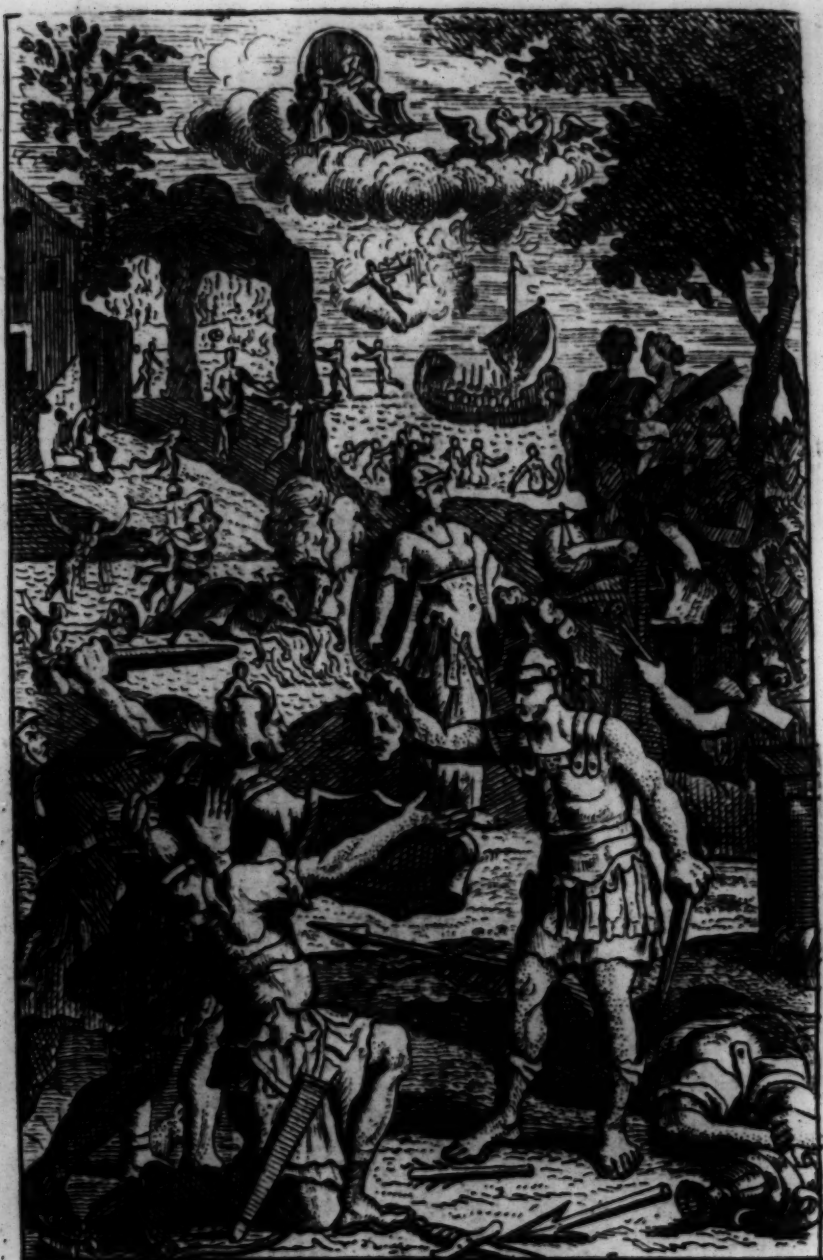
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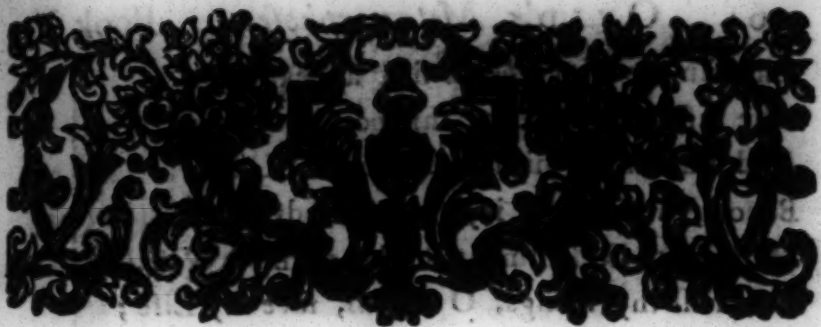
1850



To the R^t. Hon^{ble}. the
 Countess of Warwick



B. S.



O V I D's
METAMORPHOSES.
BOOK V.

Translated by
ARTHUR MAYNWARING, Esq.

The Story of PERSEUS continued.

WHILE *Perseus* entertain'd with this
Report
His Father *Cepheus*, and the list'ning
Court,

Within the Palace Walls was heard aloud
The roaring Noise of some unruly Crowd ;
Not like the Songs which chearful Friends prepare
For nuptial Days, but Sounds that threaten'd War ;
And all the Pleasures of this happy Feast
To Tumult turn'd, in wild Disorder ceas'd :
So, when the Sea is calm, we often find
A Storm rais'd sudden by some furious Wind.

Chief

Chief in the Riot *Phineus* first appear'd,
 The rash Ringleader of this boill'rous Herd,
 And brandishing his brazen-pointed Lance,
 Behold, he said, an injur'd Man advance,
 Stung with Resentment for his ravish'd Wife,
 Nor shall thy Wings, O *Perseus*, save thy Life;
 Nor *Jove* himself; tho' we've been often told
 Who got thee in the Form of tempting Gold.
 His Lance was aim'd, when *Cepheus* ran, and said,
 Hold, Brother, hold; what brutal Rage has made
 Your frantick Mind so black a Crime conceive?
 Are these the Thanks that you to *Perseus* give?
 This the Reward that to his Worth you pay,
 Whose timely Valour sav'd *Andromeda*?
 Nor was it he, if you would reason right,
 That forc'd her from you, but the jealous Spight
 Of envious *Nereids*, and *Jove's* high Decree,
 And that devouring Monster of the Sea,
 That ready with his Jaws wide-gaping stood
 To eat my Child, the fairest of my Blood.
 You lost her then, when she seem'd past Relief,
 And wish'd perhaps her Death, to ease your Grief
 With my Afflictions: not content to view
Andromeda in Chains, unhelp'd by you,
 Her Spouse, and Uncle; will you grieve that he
 Expos'd his Life the dying Maid to free?
 And shall you claim his Merit? Had you thought
 Her Charms so great, you should have bravely fought
 That Blessing on the Rocks, where fix'd she lay:
 But now let *Perseus* bear his Prize away,

By

By Service gain'd, by promis'd Faith possess'd;
To him I owe it, that my Age is bless'd
Still with a Child: nor think that I prefer
Perseus to thee, but to the Loss of her.

Pbineus on him, and *Perseus*, roll'd about
His Eyes in silent Rage, and seem'd to doubt
Which to destroy; 'till, resolute at length,
He threw his Spear with the redoubled Strength
His Fury gave him, and at *Perseus* struck;
But missing *Perseus*, in his Seat it stuck.
Who, springing nimbly up, return'd the Dart,
And almost plung'd it in his Rival's Heart;
But he for Safety to the Altar ran,
Unfit Protection for so vile a Man;
Yet was the Stroke not vain, as *Rhætus* found,
Who in his Brow receiv'd a mortal Wound;
Headlong he tumbled, when his Skull was broke,
From which his Friends the fatal Weapon took,
While he lay trembling, and his gushing Blood
In crimson Streams around the Table flow'd.

But this provok'd th' unruly Rabble worse,
They flung their Darts, and some in loud Discourse
To Death young *Perseus*, and the Monarch doom;
But *Cepheus* left before the guilty Room,
With Grief appealing to the Gods above,
Who Laws of Hospitality approve,
Who Faith protect, and succour injur'd Right,
That he was guiltless of this barb'rous Fight.

Pallas her Brother *Perseus* close attends,
And with her ample Shield from Harm defends,

Raising

Raising a sprightly Courage in his Heart:
 But *Indian Atbis* took the weaker Part,
 Born in the chrystal Grottoes of the Sea,
Lymnate's Son, a Fenny Nymph, and the
 Daughter of *Ganges*; graceful was his Mein,
 His Person lovely, and his Age Sixteen.
 His Habit made his native Beauty more;
 A purple Mantle fring'd with Gold he wore;
 His Neck well-turn'd with golden Chains was grac'd,
 His Hair with Myrrh perfum'd, was nicely drest.
 Tho' with just Aim he could the Jav'lin throw,
 Yet with more Skill he drew the bending Bow;
 And now was drawing it with artful Hand,
 When *Perseus* snatching up a flaming Brand,
 Whirl'd sudden at his Face the burning Wood,
 Crush'd his Eyes in, and quench'd the Fire with Blood;
 Thro' the soft Skin the splinter'd Bones appear,
 And spoil'd the Face that lately was so fair.

When *Lycabas* his *Atbis* thus beheld,
 How was his Heart with friendly Horror fill'd!
 A Youth so noble, to his Soul so dear,
 To see his shapeless Look, his dying Groans to hear!
 He snatch'd the Bow the Boy was us'd to bend,
 And cry'd, With me, false Traitor, dare contend;
 Boast not a Conquest o'er a Child, but try
 Thy Strength with me, who all thy Pow'rs defy;
 Nor think so mean an Act a Victory: }
 While yet he spoke he flung the whizzing Dart,
 Which pierc'd the plaited Robe, but miss'd his Heart:
Perseus defy'd, upon him fiercely press'd
 With Sword unsheath'd, and plung'd it in his Breast;
 His

His Eyes o'erwhelm'd with Night, he stumbling falls,
 And with his latest Breath on *Aëris* calls;
 Pleas'd that so near the lovely Youth he lies,
 He sinks his Head upon his Friend, and dies.

Next eager *Phorbas*, old *Methion's* Son,
 Came rushing forward with *Amphimedon*;
 When the smooth Pavement, slipp'ry made with Gore,
 Tripp'd up their Feet, and flung 'em on the Floor;
 The Sword of *Perseus*, who by Chance was nigh,
 Prevents their Rise, and where they fall, they lie:
 Full in his Ribs *Amphimedon* he smote,
 And then struck fiery *Phorbas* in the Throat.
Eurytus lifting up his Ax, the Blow
 Was thus prevented by his nimble Foe;
 A golden Cup he seizes, high emboss'd,
 And at h's Head the massy Goblet tost:
 It hits, and from his Forehead bruis'd rebounds,
 And Blood and Brains he vomits from his Wounds;
 With his slain Fellows on the Floor he lies,
 And Death for ever shuts his swimming Eyes.
 Then *Polydæmon* fell, a Goddess born;
Phlegias and *Elycen* with Locks unshorn
 Next follow'd; next, the Stroke of Death he gave
 To *Clytus*, *Abanus*, and *Lycetus* brave;
 While o'er unnumber'd Heaps of ghastly Dead,
 The *Argive* Hero's Feet triumphant tread.

But *Phineus* stands aloof, and dreads to feel
 His Rival's Force, and flies his pointed Steel:
 Yet threw a Dart from far; by Chance it lights
 On *Idas*, who for neither Party fights;

But

But wounded, sternly thus to *Phineus* said,
 Since of a Neuter thou a Foe hast made,
 This I return thee, drawing from his Side
 The Dart; which, as he strove to fling, he dy'd.
Odites fell by *Clymenus*'s Sword,
 The *Cephen* Court had not a greater Lord.
Hypseus his Blade does in *Protenor* sheath,
 But brave *Lyncides* soon reveng'd his Death.
 Here too was old *Emathion*, one that fear'd
 The Gods, and in the Cause of Heav'n appear'd,
 Who only wishing the Success of Right,
 And, by his Age, exempted from the Fight,
 Both Sides alike condemns; This impious War
 Cease, cease, he cries; these bloody Broils forbear.
 This scarce the Sage with high Concern had said,
 When *Chromis* at a Blow struck off his Head,
 Which dropping, on the royal Altar roll'd,
 Still staring on the Crowd with Aspect bold;
 And still it seem'd their horrid Strife to blame,
 In Life and Death, his pious Zeal the same;
 While clinging to the Horns, the Trunk expires,
 The sever'd Head consumes amidst the Fires.

Then *Phineus*, who from far his Jav'lin threw,
Broteas and *Ammon*, Twins and Brothers, flew;
 For knotted Gauntlets matchless in the Field,
 But Gauntlets must to Swords and Jav'lins yield.
Ampycus next, with hallow'd Fillets bound,
 As *Ceres*' Priest, and with a Mitre crown'd,
 His Spear transfix'd, and struck him to the Ground. }

O *Iapedites*, with Pain I tell,
 How you, sweet Lyriss, in the Riot fell;

What

What worse than brutal Rage his Breast could fill,
 Who did thy Blood, O Bard celestial! spill?
 Kindly you press'd amid the princely Throng,
 To crown the Feast, and give the nuptial Song:
 Discord abhorr'd the Musick of thy Lyre,
 Whose Notes did gentle Peace so well inspire;
 Thee, when fierce *Petulus* far off espy'd,
 Defenceless with thy Harp, he scoffing cry'd,
 Go; to the Ghosts thy soothing Lessons play;
 We loath thy Lyre, and scorn thy peaceful Lay:
 And, as again he fiercely bid him go,
 He pierc'd his Temples with a mortal Blow.
 His Harp he held, tho' sinking on the Ground,
 Whose Strings in Death his trembling Fingers found
 By Chance, and tun'd by Chance a dying Sound. }

With Grief *Lycormas* saw him fall, from far,
 And, wresting from the Door a massy Bar,
 Full in his Poll lays on a Load of Knocks,
 Which stuns him, and he falls like a devoted Ox.
 Another Bar *Pelates* would have snatch'd,
 But *Corythus* his Motions slyly watch'd;
 He darts his Weapon from a private Stand,
 And rivets to the Post his veiny Hand:
 When strait a missive Spear transfix'd his Side,
 By *Abas* thrown, and as he hung, he dy'd.

Melaneus on the Prince's Side was slain;
 And *Dorylas*, who own'd a fertile Plain,
 Of *Nasamonias* Fields the wealthy Lord,
 Whose crowded Barns could scarce contain their Hoard.
 A whizzing Spear obliquely gave a Blow,
 Stuck in his Groin, and pierc'd the Nerves below;

His Foe beheld his Eyes convulsive roll,
 His ebbing Veins, and his departing Soul;
 Then taunting said, Of all thy spacious Plains,
 This Spot thy only Property remains.
 He left him thus; but had no sooner left,
 Than *Perseus* in Revenge his Nostrils cleft;
 From his Friend's Breast the murd'ring Dart he drew,
 And the same Weapon at the Murd'rer threw;
 His Head in Halves the darted Jav'lin cut,
 And on each Side the Brain came issuing out.

Fortune his Friend, his Deaths around he deals,
 And this his Lance, and that his Faulchion feels:
 Now *Clytius* dies; and by a diff'rent Wound,
 The Twin, his Brother *Clanis*, bites the Ground.
 In his rent Jaw the bearded Weapon sticks,
 And the steel'd Dart does *Clytius'* Thigh transfix.
 With these *Mendesian Celadon* he slew;
 And *Afreus* next, whose Mother was a Jew,
 His Sire uncertain: then by *Perseus* fell
Ætalion, who could Things to come foretell;
 But now he knows not whence the Jav'lin flies
 That wounds his Breast, nor by whose Arm he dies.

The Squire to *Phineus* next his Valour try'd,
 And fierce *Agyrtes* stain'd with Paricide.

As these are slain, fresh Numbers still appear,
 And wage with *Perseus* an unequal War;
 To rob him of his Right, the Maid he won,
 By Honour, Promise, and Desert his own.
 With him, the Father of the beauteous Bride,
 The Mother, and the frighted Virgin side;

With

With Shrieks, and doleful Cries they rend the Air:
 Their Shrieks confounded with the Din of War,
 With clashing Arms, and Groanings of the Slain,
 They grieve unpitied, and unheard complain.
 The Floor with ruddy Streams *Bellona* stains,
 And *Phineus* a new War with double Rage maintains.

Perseus begirt, from all around they pour
 Their Lances on him, a tempestuous Show'r,
 Aim'd all at him; a Cloud of Darts and Spears,
 Or blind his Eyes, or whistle round his Ears.
 Their Numbers to resist, against the Wall
 He guards his Back secure, and dares them all.
 Here from the left *Molpeus* renews the Fight,
 And bold *Ethemon* presses on the right:
 As when a hungry Tyger near him hears
 Two lowing Herds, a-while he both forbears;
 Nor can his Hopes of this, or that renounce,
 So strong he lusts to prey on both at once;
 Thus *Perseus* now with that, or this is loth
 To war distinct, but fain would fall on both.
 And first *Chaonian Molpeus* felt his Blow,
 And fled, and never after fac'd his Foe;
 Then fierce *Ethemon*, as he turn'd his Back,
 Hurry'd with Fury, aiming at his Neck,
 His brandish'd Sword against the Marble struck
 With all his Might; the brittle Weapon broke,
 And in his Throat the Point rebounding stuck. }
 Too slight the Wound for Life to issue thence,
 And yet too great for Battle, or Defence;
 His Arms extended in this piteous State,
 For Mercy he would sue, but sues too late;

Perseus has in his Bosom plung'd the Sword,
And, ere he speaks, the Wound prevents the Word.

The Crowds increasing, and his Friends distress'd,
Himself by warring Multitudes oppress'd;
Since thus unequally you fight, 'tis Time,
He cry'd, to punish your presumptuous Crime;
Beware, my Friends; his Friends were soon prepar'd,
Their Sight averting, high the Head he rear'd,
And *Gorgon* on his Foes severely star'd.

Vain Shift! says *Theseus*, with Aspect bold,
Thee, and thy Bugbear Monster, I behold
With Scorn; he lifts his Arm, but ere he threw
The Dart, the Hero to a Statue grew.

In the same Posture still the Marble stands,
And holds the Warrior's Weapons in its Hands.

Amphix, whom yet this Wonder can't alarm,
Heaves at *Lyncides*' Breast his impious Arm;
But, while thus daringly he presses on,
His Weapon and his Arm are turn'd to Stone.
Next *Nileus*, he who vainly said he ow'd
His Origin to *Nile's* prolifick Flood;

Who on his Shield seven silver Rivers bore,
His Birth to witness by the Arms he wore;
Full of his seven-fold Father, thus express'd
His Boast to *Perseus*, and his Pride confess'd:
See whence we sprung; let this thy Comfort be
In thy sure Death, that thou didst die by me.
While yet he spoke, the dying Accents hung
In Sounds imperfect on his Marble Tongue;
Tho' chang'd to Stone, his Lips he seem'd to stretch,
And thro' th' insensate Rock would force a Speech.

This

This *Erys* saw, but seeing would not own;
 The Mischief by yourselves, he cries, is done,
 'Tis your cold Courage turns your Hearts to Stone.
 Come, follow me; fall on the stripling Boy,
 Kill him, and you his magick Arms destroy.
 Then, rushing on, his Arm to strike he rear'd,
 And marbled o'er, his varied Frame appear'd.

These for affronting *Pallas* were chastis'd,
 And justly met the Death they had despis'd.
 But brave *Acontus*, *Perseus*' Friend, by Chance
 Look'd back, and met the *Gorgon*'s fatal Glance:
 A Statue now become, he ghastly stares,
 And still the Foe to mortal Combat dares.

Apsyges the living Likeness knew,
 On the dead Stone with vengeful Fury flew;
 But impotent his Rage, the jarring Blade
 No Print upon the solid Marble made:
 Again, as with redoubled Might he struck,
 Himself astonish'd in the Quarry stuck.

The vulgar Deaths 'twere tedious to rehearse,
 And Fates below the Dignity of Verse;
 Their Safety in their Flight two Hundred found,
 Two Hundred, by *Medusa*'s Head were ston'd,
 Fierce *Phineus* now repents the wrongful Fight,
 And views his varied Friends, a dreadful Sight;
 He knows their Faces, for their Help he sues,
 And thinks, not hearing him, that they refuse:
 By Name he begs their Succour, one by one,
 Then doubts their Life, and feels the friendly Stone.
 Struck with Remorse, and conscious of his Pride,
 Convict of Sin, he turn'd his Eyes aside;

With suppliant Mein to *Perseus* thus he prays,
 Hence with the Head, as far as Winds and Seas
 Can bear thee ; hence, O quit the *Cephen* Shore,
 And never curse us with *Medusa* more,
 That horrid Head, which stiffens into Stone
 Those impious Men who, daring Death, look on.
 I warr'd not with thee out of Hate or Strife,
 My honest Cause was to defend my Wife,
 First pledg'd to me ; what Crime could I suppose,
 To arm my Friends, and vindicate my Spouse ?
 But vain, too late I see, was our Design ;
 Mine was the Title, but the Merit thine.
 Contending made me guilty, I confess ;
 But Penitence should make that Guilt the less :
 'Twas thine to conquer by *Minerva's* Pow'r,
 Favour'd of Heav'n, thy Mercy I implore ;
 For Life I sue ; the rest to thee I yield ;
 In Pity, from my Sight remove the Shield.

He suing said ; nor durst revert his Eyes
 On the grim Head : And *Perseus* thus replies ;
 Coward, what is in me to grant, I will,
 Nor Blood, unworthy of my Valour, spill :
 Fear not to perish by my vengeful Sword,
 From that secure, 'tis all the Fates afford.
 Where I now see thee, thou shalt still be seen,
 A lasting Monument to please our Queen ;
 There still shall thy Betroth'd behold her Spouse,
 And find his Image in her Father's House.
 This said ; where *Phineus* turn'd to shun the Shield,
 Full in his Face the staring Head he held ;

As

As here and there he strove to turn aside,
 The Wonder wrought, the Man was petrify'd :
 All Marble was his Frame, his humid Eyes
 Dropp'd Tears, which hung upon the Stone like Ice.
 In suppliant Posture, with uplifted Hands,
 And fearful Look, the guilty Statue stands.

Hence *Perseus* to his native City hies,
 Victorious, and rewarded with his Prize.
 Conquest, o'er *Prætus* the Usurper, won,
 He re-instates his Grandfire in the Throne.
Prætus, his Brother dispossest'd by Might,
 His Realm enjoy'd, and still detain'd his Right :
 But *Perseus* pull'd the haughty Tyrant down,
 And to the rightful King restor'd the Throne.
 Weak was th' Usurper, as his Cause was wrong ;
 Where *Gorgon's* Head appears, what Arms are strong,
 When *Perseus* to his Host the Monster held,
 They soon were Statues, and their King expell'd.

Thence to *Seriphus* with the Head he sails,
 Whose Prince his Story treats as idle Tales :
 Lord of a little Isle, he scorns to seem
 Too credulous, but laughs at that, and him.
 Yet did he not so much suspect the Truth,
 As out of Pride, or Envy, hate the Youth.
 The *Argive* Prince, at his Contempt enrag'd,
 To force his Faith by fatal Proof engag'd.
 Friends, shut your Eyes, he cries ; his Shield he takes,
 And to the King expos'd *Medusa's* Snakes.
 The Monarch felt the Pow'r he would not own,
 And stood convict of Folly in the Stone.

MINERVA's Interview with the MUSES.

Thus far *Minerva* was content to rove
 With *Perseus*, Offspring of her Father *Jove* :
 Now, hid in Clouds, *Seriphus* she forsook ;
 And to the *Theban* Tow'rs her Journey took,
Cythnos and *Gyaros* lying to the right,
 She pass'd unheeded in her eager Flight ;
 And chusing first on *Helicon* to rest,
 The Virgin Muses in these Words address'd :
 Me, the strange Tidings of a new-found Spring,
 Ye learned Sisters, to this Moun'tain bring.
 If all be true that Fame's wide Rumours tell,
 'Twas *Pegasus* discover'd first your Well ;
 Whose piercing Hoof gave the soft Earth a Blow,
 Which broke the Surface where these Waters flow.
 I saw that Horse by Miracle obtain
 Life, from the Blood of dire *Medusa* slain ;
 And now, this equal Prodigy to view,
 From distant Isles to fam'd *Bæotia* flew.

The Muse *Urania* said, Whatever Cause
 So great a Goddess to this Mansion draws ;
 Our Shades are happy with so bright a Guest,
 You, Queen, are welcome, and we Muses blest.
 What Fame has publish'd of our Spring is true,
 Thanks for our Spring to *Pegasus* are due.
 Then, with becoming Courtesy, she led
 The curious Stranger to their Fountain's Head ;
 Who long survey'd, with Wonder and Delight,
 Their sacred Water, charming to the Sight ;

Their

Their ancient Groves, dark Grottos, shady Bow'rs,
And smiling Plains adorn'd with various Flow'rs.
O happy Muses! she with Rapture cry'd,
Who, safe from Cares, on this fair Hill reside;
Blest in your Seat, and free yourselves to please.
With Joys of Study, and with glorious Ease.

The Fate of PYRENEUS.

Then one replies: O Goddess, fit to guide
Our humble Works, and in our Choir preside,
Who sure would wisely to these Fields repair,
To taste our Pleasures, and our Labours share,
Were not your Virtue and superior Mind
To higher Arts and nobler Deeds inclin'd;
Justly you praise our Works, and pleasing Seat,
Which all might envy in this soft Retreat,
Were we secur'd from Dangers, and from Harms;
But Maids are frighted with the least Alarms,
And none are safe in this licentious Time;
Still fierce *Pyreneus*, and his daring Crime,
With lasting Horror strikes my feeble Sight,
Nor is my Mind recover'd from the Fright.
With *Thracian* Arms this bold Usurper gain'd
Daulis, and *Phocis*, where he proudly reign'd:
It happen'd once, as thro' his Lands we went,
For the bright Temple of *Parnassus* bent,
He met us there, and in his artful Mind
Hiding the faithless Action he design'd,
Conferr'd on us (whom, Oh! too well he knew)
All Honours that to Goddesses are due,

Stop, stop, ye Muses, 'tis your Friend who calls,
 The Tyrant'said; behold the Rain that falls
 On ev'ry Side, and that ill-boding Sky,
 Whose low'ring Face portends more Storms are nigh,
 Pray make my House your own, and void of Fear,
 While this bad Weather lasts, take Shelter here.
 Gods have made meaner Places their Resort,
 And, for a Cottage, left their shining Court.

Oblig'd to stop, by the united Force
 Of pouring Rains, and complaisant Discourse,
 His courteous Invitation we obey,
 And in his Hall resolve a-while to stay.
 Soon it clear'd up; the Clouds began to fly,
 The driving North refin'd the show'ry Sky;
 Then to pursue our Journey we began:
 But the false Traitor to his Portal ran,
 Stopt our Escape, the Door securely barr'd,
 And to our Honour, Violence prepar'd.
 But we, transform'd to Birds, avoid his Snare,
 On Pinions rising in the yielding Air.

But he, by Lust and Indignation fir'd,
 Up to his highest Tow'r with Speed retir'd,
 And cries, In vain you from my Arms withdrew,
 The Way you go your Lover will pursue.
 Then, in a flying Posture wildly plac'd,
 And daring from that Height himself to cast,
 The Wretch fell headlong, and the Ground bestrew'd
 With broken Bones, and Stains of guilty Blood.

The Story of the PIERIDES.

The Muse yet spoke ; when they began to hear
 A Noise of Wings that flutter'd in the Air ;
 And strait a Voice, from one high spreading Bough,
 Seem'd to salute the Company below.

The Goddesses wonder'd, and inquir'd from whence
 That Tongue was heard, that spoke so plainly Sense ::
 (It seem'd to her a human Voice to be,

But prov'd a Bird's ; for in a shady Tree
 Nine Magpies perch'd lament their alter'd State,
 And, what they hear, are skilful to repeat.)

The Sister to the wond'ring Goddesses said,
 These, foil'd by us, by us were thus repaid.
 These did *Eriippe* of *Pæonia* bring
 With nine hard Labour-Pangs to *Pella's* King.
 The foolish Virgins of their Number proud,
 And puff'd with Praises of the senseless Crowd,
 Thro' all *Achaia*, and th' *Æmonian* Plains,
 Defy'd us thus, to match their artless Strains ;
 No more, ye *Thespian* Girls, your Notes repeat,
 Nor with false Harmony the vulgar cheat ;
 In Voice or Skill, if you with us will vie,
 As many we, in Voice or Skill will try.
 Surrender you to us, if we excell,
 Fam'd *Aganippe*, and *Medusa's* Well.
 The Conquest yours, your Prize from us shall be
 Th' *Æmathian* Plains to snowy *Pæone* ;

The Nymphs our Judges. To dispute the Field,
 We thought a Shame; but greater Shame to yield.
 On Seats of living Stone the Sisters sit,
 And by the Rivers swear to judge aright.

The Song of the PIERIDES.

Then rises one of the presumptuous Throng,
 Steps rudely forth, and first begins the Song;
 With vain Address describes the Giants Wars,
 And to the Gods their fabled Acts prefers.
 She sings, from Earth's dark Womb how *Typhon* rose,
 And struck with mortal Fear his heav'nly Foes.
 How the Gods fled to *Egypt's* slimy Soil,
 And hid their Heads beneath the Banks of *Nile*:
 How *Typhon*, from the conquer'd Skies, pursu'd
 Their routed Godheads to the sev'n-mouth'd Flood;
 Forc'd ev'ry God, his Fury to escape,
 Some beastly Form to take, or earthly Shape.
Jove (so she sung) was chang'd into a Ram,
 From whence the Horns of *Libyan Ammon* came.
Bacchus a Goat, *Apollo* was a Crow,
Phæbe a Cat, the Wife of *Jove* a Cow,
 Whose Hue was whiter than the falling Snow.
Mercury to a nasty *Ibis* turn'd,
 The Change obscene, afraid of *Typhon*, mourn'd;
 While *Venus* from a Fish Protection craves,
 And once more plunges in her native Waves.
 She sung, and to her Harp her Voice apply'd,
 Then us again to match her they defy'd.

But

But our poor Song, perhaps, for you to hear,
Nor Leisure serves, nor is it worth your Ear.
That causeless Doubt remove, O Muse, rehearse,
The Goddess cry'd, your ever-grateful Verse.
Beneath a chequer'd Shade she takes her Seat,
And bids the Sister her whole Song repeat.
The Sister thus; *Calliope* we chose
For the Performance. The sweet Virgin rose,
With Ivy crown'd, she tunes her golden Strings,
And to her Harp this Composition sings.

The Song of the MUSES.

First *Ceres* taught the lab'ring Hind to plough-
The pregnant Earth, and quick'ning Seed to sow.
The first for Man did wholesome Food provide,
And with just Laws the wicked World supply'd :
All Good from her deriv'd, to her belong
The grateful Tributes of the Muse's Song.
Her more than worthy of our Verse we deem,
Oh ! were our Verse more worthy of the Theme.

Jove on the Giant Fair *Trinacria* hurl'd,
And with one Bolt reveng'd his starry World.
Beneath her burning Hills *Tiphæus* lies,
And, struggling always, strives in vain to rise.
Down does *Pelorus* his right Hand suppress
Tow'rd *Latium*, on the left *Pachyna* weighs.
His Legs are under *Lilybæum* spread,
And *Ætna* presses hard his horrid Head.
On his broad Back he there extended lies,
And vomits Clouds of Ashes to the Skies.

Of lab'ring with his Load, at last he tires,
 And spews out in Revenge a Flood of Fires.
 Mountains he struggles to o'erwhelm, and Towns ;
 Earth's inmost Bowels quake, and Nature groans.
 His Terrors reach the direful King of Hell ;
 He fears his Throws will to the Day reveal
 The Realms of Night, and fright his trembling Ghosts.

This to prevent, he quits the *Stygian* Coasts,
 In his black Car, by sooty Horses drawn,
 Fair *Sicily* he seeks, and dreads the Dawn.
 Around her Plains he casts his eager Eyes,
 And ev'ry Mountain to the Bottom tries.
 But when, in all the careful Search, he saw
 No Cause of Fear, no ill-suspected Flaw ;
 Secure from Harm, and wand'ring on at Will,
Venus beheld him from her flow'ry Hill :
 When strait the Dame her little *Cupid* prest,
 With secret Rapture to her snowy Breast,
 And in these Words the flutt'ring Boy address.

O thou, my Arms, my Glory, and my Pow'r,
 My Son, whom Men, and deathless Gods adore ;
 Bend thy sure Bow, whose Arrows never miss'd,
 No longer let Hell's King thy Sway resist ;
 Take him, while straggling from his dark Abodes
 He coasts the Kingdom of superior Gods.
 If Sov'reign *Jove*, if Gods who rule the Waves,
 And *Neptune*, who rules them, have been thy Slaves,
 Shall Hell be free ? The Tyrant strike, my Son,
 Enlarge thy Mother's Empire, and thy own.
 Let not our Heav'n be made the Mock of Hell,
 But *Pluto* to confess thy Pow'r compel.

Our Rule is slighted in our native Skies,
 See *Pallas*, see *Diana* too defies
 Thy Darts, which *Ceres*' Daughter would despise.
 She too our Empire treats with aukward Scorn;
 Such Insolence no longer's to be borne.
 Revenge our slighted Reign, and with thy Dart
 Transfix the Virgin's to the Uncle's Heart.

She said; and from his Quiver strait he drew
 A Dart that surely would the Business do.
 She guides his Hand, she makes her Touch the Test,
 And of a thousand Arrows chose the best:
 No Feather better pois'd, a sharper Head
 None had, and sooner none, and surer sped.
 He bends his Bow, he draws it to his Ear,
 Thro' *Pluto*'s Heart it drives, and fixes there.

The Rape of PROSERPINE.

Near *Enna*'s Walls a spacious Lake is spread,
 Fam'd for the sweetly-singing Swans it bred;
Pergusa is its Name: And never more
 Were heard, or sweeter on *Cayster*'s Shore.
 Woods crown the Lake; and *Phæbus* ne'er invades
 The tufted Fences, or offends the Shades:
 Fresh fragrant Breezes fan the verdant Bow'rs,
 And the moist Ground smiles with enamell'd Flow'rs.
 The chearful Birds their airy Carols sing,
 And the whole Year is one eternal Spring.

Here, while young *Proserpine*, among the Maids,
 Diverts herself in these delicious Shades;

While

While like a Child with busy Speed and Care
 She gathers Lilies here; and Vi'lets there;
 While first to fill her little Lap she strives,
 Hell's grizly Monarch at the Shade arrives;
 Sees her thus sporting on the flow'ry Green,
 And loves the blooming Maid as soon as seen.
 His urgent Flame impatient of Delay,
 Swift as his Thought he seiz'd the beauteous Prey,
 And bore her in his footy Car away. }
 The frighted Goddess to her Mother cries,
 But all in vain, for now far off she flies;
 Far she behind her leaves her Virgin Train,
 To them too cries, and cries to them in vain;
 And, while with Passion she repeats her Call,
 The Vi'lets from her Lap, and Lilies fall:
 She misses 'em, poor Heart! and makes new Moan;
 Her Lilies, ah! are lost, her Vi'lets gone.

O'er Hills, the Ravisher, and Vallies speeds,
 By Name encouraging his foamy Steeds;
 He rattles o'er their Necks the rusty Reins,
 And ruffles with the Stroke their shaggy Manes:
 O'er Lakes he whirls his flying Wheels, and comes
 To the *Palici* breathing sulph'rous Fumes.
 And thence to where the *Bacchiads* of Renown
 Between unequal Havens built their Town;
 Where *Arethusa*, round th' imprison'd Sea,
 Extends her crooked Course to *Cyane*;
 The Nymph who gave the neighb'ring Lake a Name,
 Of all *Sicilian* Nymphs the first in Fame,
 She from the Waves advanc'd her beauteous Head,
 The Goddess knew, and thus to *Pluto* said;

Farther

Farther thou shalt not with the Virgin run ;
Ceres unwilling, canst thou be her Son ?
The Maid should be by sweet Persuasion won.
Force suits not with the Softness of the Fair ;
For, if great Things with small I may compare,
Me *Anapis* once lov'd ; a milder Course
He took, and won me by his Words, not Force.

Then, stretching out her Arms, she stopt his Way ;
But he, impatient of the shortest Stay,
Throws to his dreadful Steeds the slacken'd Rein,
And strikes his iron Sceptre thro' the Main ;
The Depths profound thro' yielding Waves he cleaves,
And to Hell's Centre a free Passage leaves ;
Down sinks his Chariot, and his Realms of Night
The God soon reaches with a rapid Flight.

CYANE *dissolves to a Fountain.*

But still does *Cyane* the Rape bemoan,
And with the Goddess' Wrongs laments her own ;
For the stol'n Maid, and for her injur'd Spring,
Time to her Trouble no Relief can bring.
In her sad Heart a heavy Load she bears,
'Till the dumb Sorrow turns her all to Tears.
Her mingling Waters with that Fountain pass,
Of which she late immortal Goddess was ;
Her varied Members to a Fluid melt,
A pliant Softness in her Bones is felt ;
Her wavy Locks first drop away in Dew,
And liquid next her slender Fingers grew.

The

The Body's Change soon seizes its Extreme,
 Her Legs dissolve, and Feet flow off in Stream,
 Her Arms, her Back, her Shoulders, and her Side,
 Her swelling Breasts in little Currents glide,
 A silver Liquor only now remains
 Within the Channel of her purple Veins ;
 Nothing to fill Love's Grasp ; her Husband chaste
 Bathes in that Bosom he before embrac'd.

A Boy transform'd to an Eft.

Thus, while thro' all the Earth, and all the Main,
 Her Daughter mournful *Ceres* sought in vain ;
Aurora, when with dewy Looks she rose,
 Nor burnish'd *Vesper* found her in Repose,
 At *Ætna's* flaming Mouth two pitchy Pines
 To light her in her Search at length she tines.
 Refless, with these, thro' frosty Night she goes,
 Nor fears the cutting Winds, nor heeds the Snows ;
 And, when the Morning-Star the Day renews,
 From East to West her absent Child pursues.
 Thirsty at last by long Fatigue she grows,
 But meets no Spring, no Riv'let near her flows.
 Then looking round, a lowly Cottage spies,
 Smoaking among the Trees, and thither hies.
 The Goddess knocking at the little Door,
 'Twas open'd by a Woman old and poor,
 Who, when she begg'd for Water, gave her Ale
 Brew'd long, but well preserv'd from being stale.

The

The Goddess drank; a chuffy Lad was by,
Who saw the Liquor with a grudging Eye,
And grinning, cries, She's greedy more than dry. }

Ceres, offended at his foul Grimace,
Flung what she had not drank into his Face;
The Sprinklings speckle where they hit the Skin,
And a long Tail does from his Body spin;
His Arms are turn'd to Legs, and lest his Size
Should make him mischievous, and he should rise
Against Mankind, diminutives his Frame,
Less than a Lizzard, but in Shape the same.
Amaz'd the Dame the wondrous Sight beheld
And weeps, and fain would touch her quondam Child.
Yet her Approach th' affrighted Vermin shuns,
And fast into the greatest Crevice runs.
A Name they gave him, which the Spots exprest,
That rose like * Stars, and varied all his Breast.

What Lands, what Seas the Goddess wander'd o'er,
Were long to tell; for there remain'd no more.
Searching all round, her fruitless Toil she mourns,
And with Regret to *Sicily* returns.

At length, where *Cyane* now flows, she came,
Who could have told her, were she still the same
As when she saw her Daughter sink to Hell;
But what she knows she wants a Tongue to tell.
Yet this plain Signal manifestly gave,
The Virgin's Girdle floating on a Wave,
As late she dropt it from her slender Waist,
When with her Uncle thro' the Deep she past.

Ceres.

Ceres the Token by her Grief confess,
And tore her golden Hair, and beat her Breast.
She knows not on what Land her Curse should fall,
But, as ingrate, alike upbraids them all,
Unworthy of her Gifts; *Trinacria* most,
Where the last Steps she found of what she lost.
The Plough for this the vengeful Goddess broke,
And with one Death the Ox, and Owner struck.
In vain the fallow Fields the Peasant tills,
The Seed, corrupted ere 'tis sown, she kills.
The fruitful Soil, that once such Harvests bore,
Now mocks the Farmer's Care, and teems no more.
And the rich Grain which fills the furrow'd Glade,
Rots in the Seed, or shrivels in the Blade;
Or too much Sun burns up, or too much Rain
Drowns, or black Blights destroy the blasted Plain;
Or greedy Birds the new-sown Seed devour,
Or Darnel, Thistles, and a Crop impure
Of knotted Grass along the Acres stand,
And spread their thriving Roots thro' all the Land.

Then from the Waves soft *Arethusa* rears
Her Head, and back she flings her dropping Hairs.
O Mother of the Maid, whom thou so far
Hast sought, of whom thou canst no Tidings hear;
O thou, she cry'd, who art to Life a Friend,
Cease here thy Search, and let thy Labour end.
Thy faithful *Sicily's* a guiltless Clime,
And should not suffer for another's Crime;
She neither knew, nor could prevent the Deed.
Nor think that for my Country thus I plead;

My

My Country's *Pisa*, I'm an Alien here,
 Yet these Abodes to *Elis* I prefer,
 No Clime to me so sweet, no Place so dear.
 These Springs I *Arethusa* now possess,
 And this my Seat, O gracious Goddess, bless.
 This Island why I love, and why I crost
 Such spacious Seas to reach *Ortygia's* Coast,
 To you I shall impart, when, void of Care,
 Your Heart's at Ease, and you're more fit to hear;
 When on your Brow no pressing Sorrow fits,
 For gay Content alone such Tales admits.
 When thro' Earth's Caverns I a-while have roll'd
 My Waves, I rise, and here again behold
 The long-lost Stars; and, as I late did glide
 Near *Styx*, *Proserpina* there I espy'd.
 Fear still with Grief might in her Face be seen;
 She still her Rape laments; yet, made a Queen,
 Beneath those gloomy Shades her Sceptre sways,
 And ev'n th' infernal King her Will obeys.

This heard, the Goddess like a Statue stood,
 Stupid with Grief; and in that musing Mood
 Continu'd long; new Cares a-while suppress
 The reigning Pow'rs of her immortal Breast.
 At last to *Jove*, her Daughter's Sire, she flies,
 And with her Chariot cuts the chrystal Skies;
 She comes in Clouds, and with dishevell'd Hair,
 Standing before his Throne, prefers her Pray'r.

King of the Gods, defend my Blood and thine,
 And use it not the worse for being mine.

If

If I no more am gracious in thy Sight,
 Be just, O *Jove*, and do thy Daughter Right.
 In vain I sought her the wide World around,
 And, when I most despair'd to find her, found.
 But how can I the fatal Finding boast,
 By which I know she is for ever lost?
 Without her Father's Aid, what other Pow'r
 Can to my Arms the ravish'd Maid restore?
 Let him restore her, I'll the Crime forgive;
 My Child, tho' ravish'd, I'd with Joy receive.
 Pity, your Daughter with a Thief should wed,
 Tho' mine, you think, deserves no better Bed.

Jove thus replies; It equally belongs
 To both, to guard our common Pledge from Wrongs.
 But if to Things we proper Names apply,
 This hardly can be call'd an Injury.
 The Theft is Love; nor need we blush to own
 The Thief, if I can judge, to be our Son.
 Had you of his Desert no other Proof,
 To be *Jove's* Brother is methinks enough.
 Nor was my Throne by Worth superior got,
 Heav'n fell to me, as Hell to him, by Lot:
 If you are still resolv'd her Loss to mourn,
 And nothing else will serve than her Return;
 Upon these Terms she may again be yours,
 (Th' irrevocable Terms of Fate, not ours)
 Of *Stygian* Food if she did never taste,
 Hell's Bounds may then, and only then, be past.

The Transformation of ASCALAPHUS into an Owl.

The Goddess now, resolving to succeed,
 Down to the gloomy Shades descends with Speed;
 But adverse Fate had otherwise decreed. }
 For, long before, her giddy thoughtless Child
 Had broke her Fast, and all her Projects spoil'd.
 As in the Garden's shady Walk she stray'd,
 A fair Pomegranate charm'd the simple Maid,
 Hung in her Way, and tempting her to taste,
 She pluck'd the Fruit, and took a short Repast.
 Seven Times, a Seed at once, she eat the Food;
 The Fact *Ascalaphus* had only view'd;
 Whom *Acheron* begot in *Stygian* Shades
 On *Orpheus*, fam'd among *Avernal* Maids;
 He saw what past, and by discovering all,
 Detain'd the ravish'd Nymph in cruel Thrall.

But now a Queen, she with Resentment heard,
 And chang'd the vile Informer to a Bird.
 In *Phlegeton's* black Stream her Hand she dips,
 Sprinkles his Head, and wets his babbling Lips.
 Soon on his Face, bedropt with Magick Dew,
 A Change appear'd, and gawdy Feathers grew.
 A crooked Beak the Place of Nose supplies,
 Rounder his Head, and larger are his Eyes.
 His Arms and Body waste, but are supply'd
 With yellow Pinions flagging on each Side.
 His Nails grow crooked, and are turn'd to Claws,
 And lazily along his heavy Wings he draws.

Ill-omen'd in his Form, th' unlucky Fowl,
Abhorr'd by Men, and call'd a screeching Owl.

*The Daughters of ACHELOUS transform'd to
SIRENS.*

Justly this Punishment was due to him,
And less had been too little for his Crime :
But, O ye Nymphs that from the Flood descend,
What Fault of yours the Gods could so offend,
With Wings and Claws your beauteous Forms to spoil,
Yet save your Maiden Face, and winning Smile ?
Were you not with her in *Pergusa's* Bow'rs,
When *Proserpine* went forth to gather Flow'rs ?
Since *Pluto* in his Car the Goddess caught,
Have you not for her in each Climate sought ?
And when on Land you long had search'd in vain,
You wish'd for Wings to cross the pathless Main ;
That Earth and Sea might witness to your Care :
The Gods were easy, and return'd your Pray'r ;
With golden Wing o'er foamy Waves you fled,
And to the Sun your plummy Glories spread.
But, lest the soft Enchantment of your Songs,
And the sweet Musick of your flatt'ring Tongues
Should quite be lost, (as courteous Fates ordain)
Your Voice and Virgin Beauty still remain.

Jove some Amends for *Ceres* lost to make,
Yet willing *Pluto* should the Joy partake,
Gives 'em of *Proserpine* an equal Share,
Who, claim'd by both, with both divides the Year.

The

The Goddess now in either Empire sways,
 Six Moons in Hell, and six with *Ceres* stays:
 Her peevish Temper's chang'd; that sullen Mind,
 Which made ev'n Hell uneasy, now is kind;
 Her Voice refines, her Mein more sweet appears,
 Her Forehead free from Frowns, her Eyes from Tears.
 As when, with golden Light, the conqu'ring Day
 Thro' dusky Exhalations clears a Way.
Ceres her Daughter's Rape no longer mourn'd,
 But back to *Arctusa's* Spring return'd;
 And sitting on the Margin, bid her tell
 From whence she came, and why a sacred Well.

The Story of ARETHUSA.

Still were the purling Waters, and the Maid
 From the smooth Surface rais'd her beauteous Head,
 Wipes off the Drops that from her Tresses ran,
 And thus to tell *Alpheus'* Loves began.

In *Elis* first I breath'd the living Air,
 The Chase was all my Pleasure, all my Care.
 None lov'd like me the Forest to explore,
 To pitch the Toils, and drive the bristled Boar.
 Of fair, tho' masculine, I had the Name,
 But gladly would to that have quitted Claim:
 It less my Pride than Indignation rais'd,
 To hear the Beauty I neglected, prais'd;
 Such Compliments I loath'd, such Charms as these
 I scorn'd, and thought it Infamy to please.

Once, I remember, in the Summer's Heat,
 Tir'd with the Chase, I sought a cool Retreat;

Vol. I.

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And

And, walking on, a silent Current found,
 Which gently glided o'er the grav'ly Ground.
 The chrytal Water was so smooth, so clear,
 My Eye distinguish'd ev'ry Pebble there.
 So soft its Motion, that I scarce perceiv'd
 The running Stream, or what I saw believ'd.
 The hoary Willow, and the Poplar, made
 Along the shelving Bank a grateful Shade.
 In the cool Rivulet my Feet I dipt,
 Then waded to the Knee, and then I stript;
 My Robe I careless on an Osier threw,
 That near the Place commodiously grew;
 Nor long upon the Border naked stood,
 But plung'd with Speed into the silver Flood.
 My Arms a thousand Ways I mov'd, and try'd
 To quicken, if I could, the lazy Tide;
 Where, while I play'd my swimming Gambols o'er,
 I heard a murm'ring Voice, and frighted sprung to Shore.
 Oh! whither, *Arcthusa*, dost thou fly?
 From the Brook's Bottom did *Alpheus* cry;
 Again, I heard him, in a hollow Tone,
 Oh! whither, *Arcthusa*, dost thou run?
 Naked I flew, nor could I stay to hide
 My Limbs, my Robe was on the other Side;
Alpheus follow'd fast, th' inflaming Sight
 Quicken'd his Speed, and made his Labour light;
 He sees me ready for his eager Arms,
 And with a greedy Glance devours my Charms.
 As trembling Doves from pressing Danger fly,
 When the fierce Hawk comes sousing from the Sky;
 And,

And, as fierce Hawks the trembling Doves pursue,
From him I fled, and after me he flew.

First by *Orbomenis* I took my Flight,
And soon had *Psophis* and *Cyllene* in Sight;
Behind me then high *Mænalus* I lost,
And craggy *Erimanthus* scal'd with Frost;
Elis was next; thus far the Ground I trod
With nimble Feet, before the distanc'd God.

But here I lagg'd, unable to sustain
The Labour longer, and my Flight maintain;
While he more strong, more patient of the Toil,
And fir'd with Hopes of Beauty's speedy Spoil,
Gain'd my lost Ground, and by redoubled Pace,
Now left between us but a narrow Space.

Unweary'd I 'till now o'er Hills, and Plains,
O'er Rocks, and Rivers ran, and felt no Pains:
The Sun behind me, and the God I kept,
But, when I fastest should have run, I slept.
Before my Feet his Shadow now appear'd;
As what I saw, or rather what I fear'd.

Yet there I could not be deceiv'd by Fear,
Who felt his Breath pant on my braided Hair, [near. }
And heard his sounding Tread, and knew him to be
Tir'd, and despairing, O celestial Maid,
I'm caught, I cry'd, without thy heav'nly Aid.
Help me, *Diana*, help a Nymph forlorn,
Devoted to the Woods, who long has worn }
Thy Livery, and long thy Quiver born.
The Goddess heard; my pious Pray'r prevail'd;
In muffling Clouds my Virgin Head was veil'd.

The am'rous God, deluded of his Hopes,
 Searches the Gloom, and thro' the Darkness gropes;
 Twice, where *Diana* did her Servant hide,
 He came, and twice, O *Arethusa*! cry'd.
 How shaken was my Soul, how sunk my Heart!
 The Terror seiz'd on ev'ry trembling Part.
 Thus when the Wolf about the Mountain prowls
 For Prey, the Lambkin hears his horrid Howls:
 The tim'rous Hare, the Pack approaching nigh,
 Thus hearkens to the Hounds, and trembles at the Cry;
 Nor dares she stir, for fear her scented Breath
 Direct the Dogs, and guide the threaten'd Death.
Alpheus in the Cloud no Traces found
 To mark my Way, yet stays to guard the Ground.
 The God so near, a chilly Sweat possess
 My fainting Limbs, at ev'ry Pore express;
 My Strength distill'd in Drops, my Hair in Dew,
 My Form was chang'd, and all my Substance new.
 Each Motion was a Stream, and my whole Frame
 Turn'd to a Fount, which still preserves my Name.
 Resolv'd I should not his Embrace escape,
 Again the God resumes his fluid Shape;
 To mix his Streams with mine he fondly tries,
 But still *Diana* his Attempt denies.
 She cleaves the Ground; thro' Caverns dark I run
 A different Current, while he keeps his own.
 To dear *Ortygia* she conducts my Way,
 And here I first review the welcome Day.

Here *Arethusa* stopt; then *Ceres* takes
 Her golden Car, and yokes her fiery Snakes;

With

With a just Rein along Mid-heav'n she flies
 O'er Earth, and Seas, and cuts the yielding Skies.
 She halts at *Athens*, dropping like a Star,
 And to *Triptolemus* resigns her Car.
 Parent of Seed, she gave him fruitful Grain,
 And bade him teach to till and plough the Plain;
 The Seed to sow, as well in fallow Fields,
 As where the Soil manur'd a richer Harvest yields.

The Transformation of LYNCEUS.

The Youth o'er *Europe* and o'er *Asia* drives,
 'Till at the Court of *Lyncus* he arrives.
 The Tyrant *Scythia's* barb'rous Empire sway'd;
 And, when he saw *Triptolemus*, he said,
 How cam'st thou, Stranger, to our Court, and why?
 Thy Country, and thy Name? The Youth did thus reply,
Triptolemus my Name; my Country's known
 O'er all the World, *Minerva's* fav'rite Town,
Athens, the first of Cities in Renown. }
 By Land I neither walk'd, nor sail'd by Sea,
 But hither thro' the *Æther* made my Way.
 By me, the Goddess who the Fields befriends,
 These Gifts, the greatest of all Blessings, sends.
 The Grain she gives if in your Soil you sow,
 Thence wholesome Food in golden Crops shall grow.

Soon as the Secret to the King was known,
 He grudg'd the Glory of the Service done,
 And wickedly resolv'd to make it all his own. }
 To hide his Purpose, he invites his Guest,
 The Friend of *Ceres*, to a royal Feast,

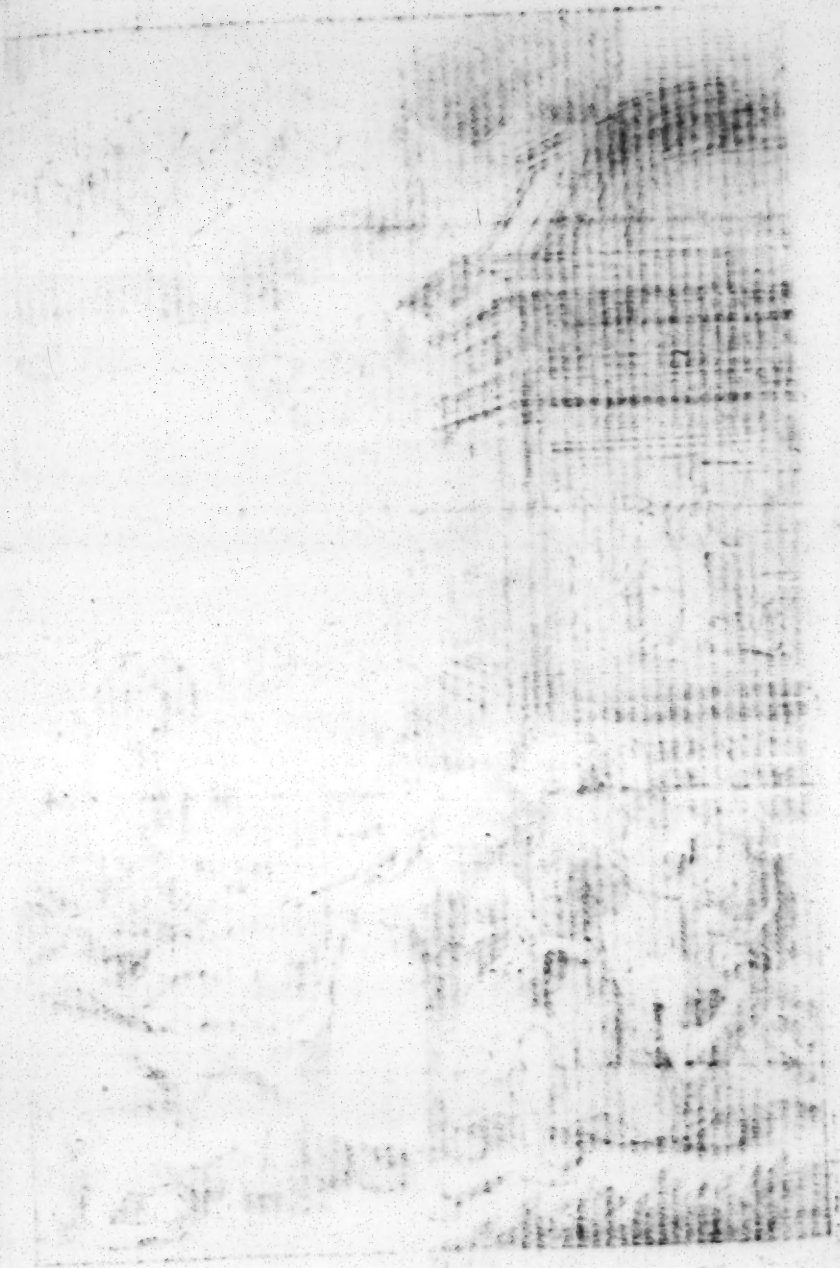
And when sweet Sleep his heavy Eyes had seiz'd,
 The Tyrant with his Steel attempts his Breast.
 Him strait a Lynx's Shape the Goddess gives,
 And home the Youth her sacred Dragons drives.

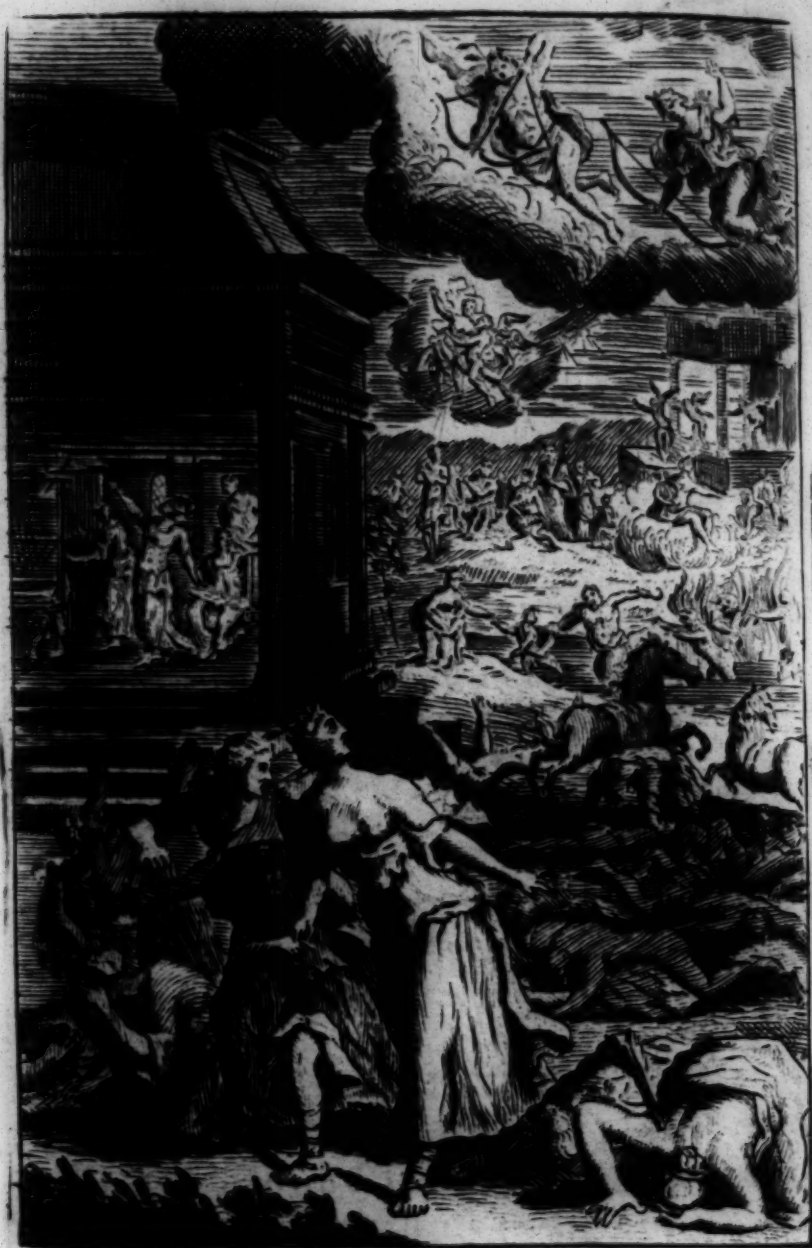
The PIERIDES transform'd to Magpies.

The chosen Muse here ends her sacred Lays;
 The Nymphs unanimous decree the Bays,
 And give the *Heliconian* Goddesses the Praise. }
 Then, far from vain that we should thus prevail,
 But much provok'd to hear the vanquish'd rail,
Calliope resumes; Too long we've born
 Your daring Taunts, and your affronting Scorn;
 Your Challenge justly merited a Curse,
 And this unmanner'd Railing makes it worse.
 Since you refuse us calmly to enjoy
 Our Patience, next our Passions we'll employ;
 The Dictates of a Mind enrag'd pursue,
 And, what our just Resentment bids us, do.

The Railers laugh, our Threats and Wrath despise,
 And clap their Hands, and make a scolding Noise:
 But in the Fact they're seiz'd; beneath their Nails
 Feathers they feel, and on their Faces Scales;
 Their horny Beaks at once each other scare,
 Their Arms are plum'd, and on their Backs they bear }
 Py'd Wings, and flutter in the fleeting Air.
 Chatt'ring, the Scandal of the Woods they fly,
 And there continue still their clam'rous Cry:
 The same their Eloquence, as Maids, or Birds,
 Now only Noise, and nothing then but Words.

The End of the Fifth Book.





To Her Highness the Princess Anne
Eldest Daughter of their R.^y Highness
the Prince and Princess of Wales
 H 6



O V I D's
METAMORPHOSES.
BOOK VI.

Translated by Mr. CROXALL.

The Transformation of ARACHNE into a Spider.



ALLAS, attending to the Muse's Song,
Approv'd the just Resentment of their
Wrong;
And thus reflects; While tamely I com-
mend

Those who their injur'd Deities defend,
My own Divinity affronted stands,
And calls aloud for Justice at my Hands;
Then takes the Hint, ashamed to lag behind,
And on *Arachne* bends her vengeful Mind;
One at the Loom so exquisitely skill'd,
That to the Goddess she refus'd to yield.

Low was her Birth, and small her native Town,
She from her Art alone obtain'd Renown.

Idmon, her Father, made it his Employ,
To give the spungy Fleece a purpie Dye :
Of vulgar Strain her Mother, lately dead,
With her own Rank had been content to wed ;
Yet she their Daughter, tho' her Time was spent
In a small Hamlet, and of mean Descent,
Thro' the great Towns of *Lydia* gain'd a Name,
And fill'd the neighb'ring Countries with her Fame.

Oft, to admire the Niceness of her Skill,
The *Nymphs* would quit their Fountain, Shade, or Hill :
Thither, from green *Tymolus*, they repair,
And leave the Vineyards, their peculiar Care ;
Thither, from fam'd *Pactolus'* golden Stream,
Drawn by her Art, the curious *Naiads* came.
Nor would the Work, when finish'd, please so much,
As, while she wrought, to view each graceful Touch ;
Whether the shapeless Wool in Balls she wound,
Or with quick Motion turn'd the Spindle round,
Or with her Pencil drew the neat Design,
Pallas her Mistress shone in ev'ry Line.

This the proud Maid with scornful Air denies,
And ev'n the Goddess at her Work defies ;
Disowns her heav'nly Mistress ev'ry Hour,
Nor asks her Aid, nor deprecates her Pow'r.
Let us, she cries, but to a Trial come,
And, if she conquers, let her fix my Doom.

The Goddess then a Beldame's Form put on,
With silver Hairs her hoary Temples shone ;

Propp'd

Propp'd by a Staff, she hobbles in her Walk,
And tott'ring thus begins her old Wive's Talk.

Young Maid attend, nor stubbornly despise
The Admonitions of the old, and wise;
For Age, tho' scorn'd, a ripe Experience bears,
That golden Fruit, unknown to blooming Years:
Still may remotest Fame your Labours crown,
And Mortals your superior Genius own;
But to the Goddesses yield, and humbly meek
A Pardon for your bold Presumption seek;
The Goddesses will forgive. At this the Maid,
With Passion fir'd, her gliding Shuttle stay'd;
And, darting Vengeance with an angry Look,
To *Pallas* in Disguise thus fiercely spoke.

Thou doating Thing, whose idle babbling Tongue
But too well shews the Plague of living long;
Hence, and reprove, with this your sage Advice,
Your giddy Daughter, or your aukward Niece;
Know, I despise your Counsel, and am still
A Woman, ever wedded to my Will;
And, if your skilful Goddesses better knows,
Let her accept the Trial I propose.

She does, impatient *Pallas* strait replies,
And, cloath'd with heav'nly Light, sprung from her
odd Disguise.

The *Nymphs*, and Virgins of the Plain adore
The awful Goddess, and confess her Pow'r;
The Maid alone stood unappall'd; yet show'd
A transient Blush, that for a Moment glow'd,
Then disappear'd; as purple Streaks adorn
The op'ning Beauties of the rosy Morn;

'Till *Phæbus*, rising prevalently bright,
 Allays the Tincture with his Silver Light.
 Yet she persists, and obstinately great,
 In hopes of Conquest hurries on her Fate.
 The Goddesses now the Challenge waves no more,
 Nor, kindly good, advises as before.
 Strait to their Posts appointed both repair,
 And fix their threaded Looms with equal Care:
 Around the solid Beam the Web is ty'd,
 While hollow Canes the parting Warp divide;
 Thro' which with nimble Flight the Shuttles play,
 And for the Woof prepare a ready Way;
 The Woof and Warp unite, press'd by the toothy Slay.

Thus both, their Mantles button'd to their Breast,
 Their skilful Fingers ply with willing Haste,
 And work'd with Pleasure; while they chear the Eye
 With glowing Purple of the *Tyrian* Dye:
 Or, justly intermixing Shades with Light,
 Their Colourings insensibly unite.

As when a Show'r transpierc'd with Sunny Rays,
 Its mighty Arch along the Heav'n displays;
 From whence a thousand diff'rent Colours rise,
 Whose fine Transition cheats the clearest Eyes;
 So like the intermingled Shading seems,
 And only differs in the last Extremes.

Then Threads of Gold both artfully dispose,
 And, as each Part in just Proportion rose,
 Some antique Fable in their Work disclose.

Pallas in Figures wrought the heav'nly Pow'rs,
 And *Mars's* Hill among th' *Athenian* Tow'rs.

On lofty Thrones twice six Celestials fate,
Jove in the Midst, and held their warm Debate ;
The Subject weighty, and well known to Fame,
From whom the City should receive its Name.

Each God by proper Features was express'd,
Jove with majestick Mein excell'd the rest.
His three-fork'd Mace the dewy Sea-God shook,
And, looking sternly, smote the ragged Rock ;
When from the Stone leapt forth a sprightly Steed,
And *Neptune* claims the City for the Deed.

Herself she blazons, with a glitt'ring Spear,
And crested Helm that veil'd her braided Hair,
With Shield, and scaly Breast-plate, Implements of
War. }

Struck with her pointed Launce, the teeming Earth
Seem'd to produce a new surprising Birth ;
When, from the Glebe, the Pledge of Conquest sprung,
A Tree pale-green with fairest Olives hung.
And then, to let her giddy Rival learn
What just Rewards such Boldness was to earn,
Four Trials at each Corner had their Part,
Design'd in Miniature, and touch'd with Art.
Hæmus in one, and *Rhodopè* of *Thrace*,
Transform'd to Mountains, fill'd the foremost Place ;
Who claim'd the Titles of the Gods above,
And vainly us'd the Epithets of *Jove*.
Another shew'd, where the *Pigmean* Dame,
Profaning *Juno's* venerable Name,
Turn'd to an airy Crane, descends from far,
And with her *Pigmy* Subjects wages War.

In a third Part, the Rage of Heav'n's great Queen,
 Display'd on proud *Antigone*, was seen ;
 Who with presumptuous Boldness dar'd to vie,
 For Beauty with the Empress of the Sky.
 Ah ! what avails her ancient princely Race,
 Her Sire a King, and *Troy* her native Place :
 Now, to a noisy Stork transform'd, she flies,
 And with her whiten'd Pinions cleaves the Skies.
 And in the last remaining Part was drawn
 Poor *Cinyras* that seem'd to weep in Stone ;
 Clasp'ing the Temple Steps, he sadly mourn'd
 His lovely Daughters, now to Marble turn'd.
 With her own Tree the finish'd Piece is crown'd,
 And Wreaths of peaceful Olive all the Work surround,

Arachne drew the fam'd Intrigues of *Jove*,
 Chang'd to a Bull to gratify his Love ;
 How thro' the briny Tide all foaming Hoar,
 Lovely *Europa* on his Back he bore.
 The Sea seem'd waving, and the trembling Maid
 Shrunk up her tender Feet, as if afraid ;
 And, looking back on the forsaken Strand,
 To her Companions wafts her distant Hand.
 Next she design'd *Asteria*'s fabled Rape,
 When *Jove* assum'd a soaring Eagle's Shape :
 And shew'd how *Leda* lay supinely press'd,
 While the soft snowy Swan sat hov'ring o'er her Breast.
 How in a Satyr's Form the God beguil'd,
 When fair *Antiope* with Twins he fill'd.
 Then, like *Amphytrion*, but a real *Jove*,
 In fair *Alcmena*'s Arms he cool'd his Love.

In fluid Gold to *Danae's* Heart he came,
Ægina felt him in a lambent Flame.
 He took *Mnemosyne* in Shepherd's Make,
 And for *Deois* was a speckled Snake.

She made thee, *Neptune*, like a wanton Steer,
 Pacing the Meads for Love of *Arne* dear;
 Next like a Stream, thy burning Flame to flake,
 And like a Ram, for fair *Bisakis*' Sake.
 Then *Ceres* in a Steed your Vigour try'd,
 Nor could the Mare the yellow Goddess hide.
 Next, to a Fowl transform'd, you won by Force
 The Snake-hair'd Mother of the winged Horse;
 And, in a Dolphin's fishy Form, subdu'd
Malantbo sweet beneath the oozy Flood.

All these the Maid with lively Features drew,
 And open'd proper Landscapes to the View.
 There *Phæbus*, roving like a Country Swain,
 Attunes his jolly Pipe along the Plain;
 For lovely *Iffe's* Sake in Shepherd's Weeds,
 O'er Pastures green his bleating Flock he feeds.
 There *Bacchus*, imag'd like the clust'ring Grape,
 Melting bedrops *Erigone's* fair Lap;
 And there old *Saturn*, stung with youthful Heat,
 Form'd like a Stallion, rushes to the Feat.
 Fresh Flow'rs, which Twists of Ivy intertwine,
 Mingling a running Foliage, close the neat Design.

This the bright Goddess passionately mov'd,
 With Envy saw, yet inwardly approv'd.
 The Scene of heav'nly Guilt with Haste she tore,
 Nor longer the Affront with Patience bore;

A boxen Shuttle in her Hand she took,
 And more than once *Arachne's* Forehead struck.
 Th' unhappy Maid, impatient of the Wrong,
 Down from a Beam her injur'd Person hung;
 When *Pallas*, pitying her wretched State,
 At once prevented, and pronounc'd her Fate;
 Live; but depend, vile Wretch, the Goddess cry'd,
 Doom'd in Suspence for ever to be ty'd;
 That all your Race, to utmost Date of Time,
 May feel the Vengeance, and detest the Crime.

Then, going off, she sprinkled her with Juice,
 Which Leaves of baneful *Aconite* produce.
 Touch'd with the pois'nous Drug, her flowing Hair
 Fell to the Ground, and left her Temples bare;
 Her usual Features vanish'd from their Place,
 Her Body lessen'd all, but most her Face.
 Her slender Fingers, hanging on each Side
 With many Joints, the Use of Legs supply'd:
 A Spider's Bag the rest, from which she gives
 A Thread, and still by constant Weaving lives.

The Story of NIOBE.

Swift thro' the *Phrygian* Towns the Rumour flies,
 And the strange News each female Tongue employs:
Niobe, who before she married knew
 The famous Nymph, now found the Story true;
 Yet, unreclaim'd by poor *Arachne's* Fate,
 Vainly above the Gods assum'd a State.
 Her Husband's Fame, their Family's Descent,
 Their Pow'r, and rich Dominion's wide Extent,

Might

Might well have justify'd a decent Pride;
But not on these alone the Dame rely'd.
Her lovely Progeny that far excell'd,
The Mother's Heart with vain Ambition swell'd:
The happiest Mother not unjustly styl'd,
Had no conceited Thoughts her tow'ring Fancy fill'd.

For once a Prophetess with Zeal inspir'd,
Their slow Neglect to warm Devotion fir'd;
Thro' ev'ry Street of *Thebes* who ran possess'd,
And thus in Accents wild her Charge exprest;
Haste, haste, ye *Theban* Matrons, and adore,
With hallow'd Rites, *Latona's* mighty Pow'r;
And, to the heav'nly Twins that from her spring,
With Laurel crown'd, your smoaking Incense bring.
Strait the great Summons ev'ry Dame obey'd,
And due Submission to the Goddess paid:
Graceful, with Laurel Chaplets dress'd, they came,
And offer'd Incense in the sacred Flame.

Mean-while, surrounded with a courtly Guard,
The royal *Niobe* in State appear'd;
Attir'd in Robes embroider'd o'er with Gold,
And mad with Rage, yet lovely to behold:
Her comely Tresses, trembling as she stood,
Down her fine Neck with easy Motion flow'd;
Then, darting round a proud disdainful Look,
In haughty Tone her hasty Passion broke,
And thus began; What Madness this, to court
A Goddess, founded meerly on Report?
Dare ye a poor pretended Power invoke,
While yet no Altars to my Godhead smoke?

Mine,

Mine, whose immediate Lineage stands confess'd
 From *Tantalus*, the only mortal Guest
 That e'er the Gods admitted to their Feast.
 A Sister of the *Pleiads* gave me Birth;
 And *Atlas*, mightiest Mountain upon Earth,
 Who bears the Globe of all the Stars above,
 My Grandfire was, and *Atlas* sprung from *Jove*,
 The *Theban* Towns my Majesty adore,
 And neighb'ring *Phrygia* trembles at my Pow'r:
 Rais'd by my Husband's Lute, with Turrets crown'd,
 Our lofty City stands secur'd around.
 Within my Court, where-e'er I turn my Eyes,
 Unbounded Treasures to my Prospect rise:
 With these my Face I modestly may name,
 As not unworthy of so high a Claim;
 Sev'n are my Daughters, of a Form divine,
 With sev'n fair Sons, an indefective Line.
 Go, Fools! consider this; and ask the Cause
 From which my Pride its strong Presumption draws;
 Consider this; and then prefer to me
Cæus the *Titan's* vagrant Progeny;
 To whom, in Travel, the whole spacious Earth
 No Room afforded for her spurious Birth.
 Not the least Part in Earth, in Heav'n, or Seas,
 Would grant your out-law'd Goddess any Ease:
 'Till pitying her's, from his own wand'ring Case,
Delos, the floating Island gave a Place.
 There she a Mother was, of two at most;
 Only the seventh Part of what I boast.
 My Joys all are beyond Suspicion fix'd;
 With no Pollutions of Misfortune mix'd:

Safe on the *Basis* of my Pow'r I stand,
 Above the Reach of *Fortune's* fickle Hand.
 Lessen she may my inexhausted Store,
 And much destroy, yet still must leave me more.
 Suppose it possible that some may die
 Of this my num'rous lovely Progeny ;
 Still with *Latona* I might safely vie.

Who, by her scanty Breed, scarce fit to name,
 But just escapes the childless Woman's Shame.
 Go then, with Speed your laurell'd Heads uncrown,
 And leave the silly Farce you have begun.

The tim'rous Throng their sacred Rites forbore,
 And from their Heads the verdant Laurel tore ;
 Their haughty Queen they with Regret obey'd,
 And still in gentle Murmurs softly pray'd.

High, on the Top of *Cynthus'* shady Mount,
 With Grief the Goddess saw the base Affront ;
 And, the Abuse revolving in her Breast,
 The Mother her Twin-offspring thus addrest.

Lo I, my Children, who with Comfort knew
 Your God-like Birth, and thence my Glory drew ;
 And thence have claim'd Precedency of Place
 From all but *Juno* of the heav'nly Race,
 Must now despair, and languish in Disgrace.
 My Godhead question'd, and all Rites divine,
 Unless you succour, banish'd from my Shrine.
 Nay more, the Imp of *Tantalus* has flung
 Reflections with her vile paternal Tongue ;
 Has dar'd prefer her mortal Breed to mine,
 And call'd me childless, which, just Fate, may she repine!

When

When to urge more the Goddess was prepar'd,
Phæbus in haste replies, Too much we've heard,
 And ev'ry Moment's lost, while Vengeance is deferr'd. }
Diana spoke the same. Then both enshroud
 Their heav'nly Bodies in a sable Cloud;
 And to the *Theban* Tow'rs descending light,
 Thro' the soft yielding Air direct their Flight.

Without the Wall there lies a champaign Ground
 With even Surface, far extending round,
 Beaten and levell'd, while it daily feels
 The trampling Horse, and Chariot's grinding Wheels.
 Part of proud *Niobe's* young rival Breed,
 Practising there to ride the manag'd Steed,
 Their Bridles boss'd with Gold, were mounted high
 On stately Furniture of *Tyrian* Dye.

Of these, *Ismenos*, who by Birth had been
 The first fair Issue of the fruitful Queen,
 Just as he drew the Rein to guide his Horse,
 Around the Compass of the circling Course,
 Sigh'd deeply, and the Pangs of Smart express'd,
 While the Shaft stuck, engor'd within his Breast:
 And, the Reins dropping from his dying Hand,
 He sunk quite down, and tumbled on the Sand.
Sipylus next, the rattling Quiver heard,
 And with full Speed for his Escape prepar'd;
 As when the Pilot from the black'ning Skies
 A gath'ring Storm of wintry Rain descries,
 His Sails unfurl'd, and crowded all with Wind,
 He strives to leave the threat'ning Cloud behind:
 So fled the Youth; but an unerring Dart
 O'ertook him, quick discharg'd, and sped with Art;

Fix'd

Fix'd in his Neck behind, it trembling stood,
 And at his Throat display'd the Point besmear'd with Blood.
 Prone, as his Posture was, he tumbled o'er,
 And bath'd his Courser's Mane with streaming Gore.
 Next at young *Phædimus* they took their Aim,
 And *Tantalus*, who bore his Grandfire's Name :
 These, when their other Exercise was done,
 To try the Wrestler's oily Sport begun ;
 And, straining ev'ry Nerve, their Skill express'd
 In closest Grapple, joining Breast to Breast :
 When from the bending Bow an Arrow sent,
 Join'd as they were, thro' both their Bodies went :
 Both groan'd, and writhing both their Limbs with Pain,
 They fell together bleeding on the Plain ;
 Then both their languid Eye-balls faintly roll,
 And thus together breathe away their Soul.
 With Grief *Alphenor* saw their doleful Plight,
 And smote his Breast, and sicken'd at the Sight ;
 Then to their Succour ran with eager Haste,
 And, fondly griev'd, their stiff'ning Limbs embrac'd ;
 But in the Action falls : A thrilling Dart,
 By *Phæbus* guided, pierc'd him to the Heart.
 This, as they drew it forth, his Midriff tore,
 Its barbed Point the fleshy Fragments bore,
 And let the Soul gush out in Streams of purple Gore. }
 But *Damascithon*, by a double Wound,
 Beardless, and young, lay gasping on the Ground.
 Fix'd in his finewy Ham, the steely Point
 Stuck thro' his Knee, and pierc'd the nervous Joint :

And

And, as he stoop'd to tug the painful Dart,
 Another stuck him in a vital Part;
 Shot thro' his Wezen, by the Wing it hung,
 The Life-blood forc'd it out, and darting upward sprung.
Ileoneus, the last, with Terror stands,
 Lifting in Pray'r his unavailing Hands;
 And, ignorant from whom his Grievs arise,
 Spare me, O all ye heav'nly Pow'rs, he cries:
Phæbus was touch'd too late, the founding Bow
 Had sent the Shaft, and struck the fatal Blow;
 Which yet but gently gor'd his tender Side,
 So by a slight and easy Wound he dy'd.

Swift to the Mother's Ears the Rumour came,
 And doleful Sighs the heavy News proclaim;
 With Anger and Surprise inflam'd by Turns,
 In furious Rage her haughty Stomach burns:
 First she disputes th' Effects of heav'nly Pow'r,
 Then at their daring Boldness wonders more:
 For poor *Amphion*, with sore Grief distress'd,
 Hoping to sooth his Cares by endless Rest,
 Had sheath'd a Dagger in his wretched Breast.
 And she, who tols'd her high disdainful Head,
 When thro' the Streets in solemn Pomp she led
 The Throng that from *Latona's* Altar fled,
 Assuming State beyond the proudest Queen,
 Was now the miserablest Object seen.
 Prostrate among the clay-cold Dead she fell,
 And kiss'd an undistinguish'd last Farewel.
 Then her pale Arms advancing to the Skies,
 Cruel *Latona*! triumph now, she cries.

My grieving Soul in bitter Anguish drench,
 And with my Woes your thirsty Passion quench;
 Feast your black Malice at a Price thus dear,
 While the fore Pangs of sev'n such Deaths I bear.
 Triumph, too cruel Rival, and display
 Your conq'ring Standard; for you've won the Day.
 Yet I'll excel; for yet, tho' sev'n are slain,
 Superior still in Number I remain.
 Scarce had she spoke; the Bow-string's twanging Sound
 Was heard, and dealt fresh Terrors all around,
 Which all, but *Niobe* alone, confound. }
 Stunn'd, and obdurate by her Load of Grief,
 Insensible she sits, nor hopes Relief.

Before the fun'ral Eiers, all weeping sad,
 Her Daughters stood, in Vests of Sable clad.
 When one, surpriz'd, and stung with sudden Smart,
 In vain attempts to draw the sticking Dart:
 But to grim Death her blooming Youth resigns,
 And o'er her Brother's Corpse her dying Head reclines.
 This, to assuage her Mother's Anguish tries,
 And, silenc'd in the pious Action, dies;
 Shot by a secret Arrow, wing'd with Death,
 Her fault'ring Lips but only gasp'd for Breath.
 One, on her dying Sister, breathes her last;
 Vainly in Flight another's Hopes are plac'd:
 This hiding, from her Fate a Shelter seeks;
 That trembling stands, and fills the Air with Shrieks.
 And all in vain; for now all fix had found
 Their Way to Death, each by a diff'rent Wound.

The

The last, with eager Care the Mother veil'd,
 Behind her spreading Mantle close conceal'd,
 And with her Body guarded, as a Shield.
 Only for this, this youngest, I implore,
 Grant me this one Request, I ask no more;
 O grant me this! she passionately cries:
 But while she speaks, the destin'd Virgin dies.

The Transformation of N I O B E.

Widow'd, and Childless, lamentable State!
 A doleful Sight, among the Dead she sate;
 Harden'd with Woes, a Statue of Despair,
 To ev'ry Breath of Wind unmov'd her Hair;
 Her Cheek still redd'ning, but its Colour dead,
 Faded her Eyes, and set within her Head.
 No more her pliant Tongue its Motion keeps,
 But stands congeal'd within her frozen Lips.
 Stagnate, and dull, within her purple Veins,
 Its Current stopp'd, the lifeless Blood remains.
 Her Feet their usual Offices refuse,
 Her Arms and Neck their graceful Gestures lose:
 Action and Life from ev'ry Part are gone,
 And ev'n her Entrails turn to solid Stone;
 Yet still she weeps, and whirl'd by stormy Winds,
 Borne thro' the Air, her native Country finds;
 There fix'd, she stands upon a bleaky Hill,
 There yet her marble Cheeks eternal Tears distil.

The Peasants of LYCIA transformed to Frogs.

Then all, reclaim'd by this Example, shew'd
 A due Regard for each peculiar God :
 Both Men and Women their Devoirs express'd,
 And great *Latona's* awful Pow'r confess'd.
 Then, tracing Instances of older Time,
 To suit the Nature of the present Crime,
 Thus one begins his Tale.—Where *Lycia* yields
 A golden Harvest from its fertile Fields,
 Some churlish Peasants, in the Days of Yore,
 Provok'd the Goddess to exert her Pow'r.
 The Thing indeed the Meanness of the Place
 Has made obscure, surprizing as it was ;
 But I myself once happen'd to behold
 This famous Lake of which the Story's told.
 My Father then, worn out by Length of Days,
 Nor able to sustain the tedious Ways,
 Me with a Guide had sent the Plains to roam,
 And drive his well-fed straggling Heifers home.
 Here, as we saunter'd thro' the verdant Meads,
 We spy'd a Lake o'ergrown with trembling Reeds,
 Whose wavy Tops an op'ning Scene disclose,
 From which an antique smoaky Altar rose.
 I, as my superstitious Guide had done,
 Stopp'd short, and bless'd myself, and then went on ;
 Yet I enquir'd to whom the Altar stood,
Faunus, the *Naiads*, or some native God ?
 No sylvan Deity, my Friend replies,
 Enshrin'd within this hallow'd Altar lies.

For this, O Youth, to that fam'd Goddess stands,
Whom at th' imperial *Juno's* rough Commands,
Of ev'ry Quarter of the Earth bereav'd,
Delos, the floating Isle, at length receiv'd.

Who there, in spite of Enemies, brought forth,
Beneath an Olive's Shade, her great Twin-birth.

Hence too she fled the furious Stepdame's Pow'r,
And in her Arms a double Godhead bore;
And now the Borders of fair *Lycia* gain'd,
Just when the Summer Solstice parch'd the Land.
With Thirst the Goddess languishing, no more
Her empty'd Breast would yield its milky Store;
When, from below, the smiling Valley show'd
A silver Lake that in its Bottom flow'd:

A sort of Clowns were reaping, near the Bank,
The bending Oser, and the Bullrush drank;
The Cresse, and Water-lily, fragrant Weed,
Whose juicy Stalk the liquid Fountains feed.
The Goddess came, and kneeling on the Brink,
Stoop'd at the fresh Repast, prepar'd to drink.
Then thus, being hinder'd by the Rabble Race,
In Accents mild expostulates the Case.

Water I only ask, and sure 'tis hard
From *Nature's* common Rights to be debarr'd:
This, as the genial Sun, and vital Air,
Should flow alike to ev'ry Creature's Share.
Yet still I ask, and as a Favour crave,
That which, a public Bounty, Nature gave.
Nor do I seek my weary Limbs to drench;
Only, with one cool Draught, my Thirst I'd quench.

Now

Now from my Throat the usual Moisture dries,
 And ev'n my Voice in broken Accents dies:
 One Draught as dear as Life I should esteem,
 And Water, now I thirst, would Nectar seem:
 Oh! let my little Babes your Pity move,
 And melt your Hearts to charitable Love;
 They (as by Chance they did) extend to you
 Their little Hands, and my Request pursue.

Whom would these soft Persuasions not subdue,
 Tho' the most rustick, and unmanner'd Crew?
 Yet they the Goddess's Request refuse,
 And with rude Words reproachfully abuse:
 Nay more, with spiteful Feet the Villains trod
 O'er the soft Bottom of the marshy Flood,
 And blacken'd all the Lake with Clouds of rising Mud. }

Her Thirst by Indignation was suppress'd;
 Bent on Revenge, the Goddess stood confess'd:
 Her suppliant Hands uplifting to the Skies,
 For a Redress, to Heav'n she now applies.
 And, may you live, she passionately cry'd,
 Doom'd in that Pool for ever to abide.

The Goddess has her Wish; for now they chuse
 To plunge, and dive among the watry Ooze;
 Sometimes they shew their Head above the Brim,
 And on the glassy Surface spread to swim;
 Often upon the Bank their Station take,
 Then spring, and leap into the coolly Lake.
 Still, void of Shame, they lead a clam'rous Life,
 And, croaking, still scold on in endless Strife;
 Compell'd to live beneath the liquid Stream,
 Where still they quarrel, and attempt to scream.

Now, from their bloated Throat, their Voice puts on
 Imperfect Murmurs in a hoarser Tone ;
 Their noisy Jaws, with Bawling now grown wide,
 An ugly Sight! extend on either Side :
 Their motly Back, streak'd with a List of Green,
 Join'd to their Head, without a Neck is seen ;
 And, with a Belly broad and white, they look
 Mere Frogs, and still frequent the muddy Brook.

The Fate of MARSYAS.

Scarce had the Man this famous Story told,
 Of Vengeance on the *Lycians* shown of old,
 When strait another pictures to their View
 The *Satyr's* Fate, whom angry *Phæbus* slew ;
 Who, rais'd with high Conceit, and puff'd with Pride,
 At his own Pipe the skilful God defy'd.
 Why do you tear me from myself, he cries ?
 Ah, cruel ! must my Skin be made the Prize ?
 This for a silly Pipe ? he roaring said,
 Mean-while the Skin from off his Limbs was flay'd.
 All bare, and raw, one large continu'd Wound,
 With Streams of Blood his Body bath'd the Ground.
 The bluish Veins their trembling Pulse disclos'd,
 The stringy Nerves lay naked, and expos'd ;
 His Guts appear'd, distinctly each express'd,
 With ev'ry shining Fibre of his Breast.

The *Fauns*, and *Silvans*, with the *Nymphs* that rove
 Among the *Satyrs* in the shady Grove ;
Olympus, known of old, and ev'ry Swain
 That fed, or Flock, or Herd upon the Plain,

Bewail'd

Bewail'd the Loss; and with their Tears that flow'd,
A kindly Moisture on the Earth bestow'd;
That soon, conjoin'd, and in a Body rang'd,
Sprung from the Ground, to limpid Water chang'd;
Which, down thro' *Phrygia's* Rocks, a mighty Stream,
Comes tumbling to the Sea, and *Marſya* is its Name.

The Story of PELOPS.

From these Relations strait the People turn
To present Truths, and lost *Amphion* mourn:
The Mother most was blam'd, yet some relate
That *Pelops* pity'd, and bewail'd her Fate,
And stript his Cloaths, and laid his Shoulder bare,
And made the Iv'ry Miracle appear.
This Shoulder, from the first, was form'd of Flesh,
As lively as the other, and as fresh;
But, when the Youth was by his Father slain,
The Gods restor'd his mangled Limbs again;
Only that Place which joins the Neck and Arm,
The rest untouch'd, was found to suffer Harm:
The Loss of which an Iv'ry Piece sustain'd,
And thus the Youth his Limbs, and Life regain'd.

*The Story of TEREUS, PROCNE, and
PHILOMELA.*

To *Thebes* the neighb'ring Princes all repair,
And with Condolance the Misfortune share.
Each bord'ring State in solemn Form address'd,
And each betimes a friendly Grief express'd.

Argos, with *Sparta's*, and *Mycenæ's* Towns,
 And *Calydon*, yet free from fierce *Diana's* Frowns.
Corinth for finest Brasses well fam'd of old,
Orthomenos for Men of Courage bold :
Cleonæ lying in the lowly Dale,
 And rich *Messenè* with its fertile Vale :
Pylos, for *Nestor's* City after fam'd,
 And *Træzen*, not as yet from *Pittæus* nam'd.
 And those fair Cities, which are hemm'd around
 By double Seas within the *Isthmian* Ground ;
 And those which farther from the Sea-coast stand,
 Lodg'd in the Bosom of the spacious Land.

Who can believe it? *Athens* was the last :
 Tho' for Politeness fam'd for Ages past.
 For a strait Siege, which then their Walls enclos'd,
 Such Acts of kind Humanity oppos'd :
 And thick with Ships, from foreign Nations bound,
 Sea-ward their City lay invested round.

These, with auxiliar Forces led from far,
Tereus of *Thrace*, brave, and inur'd to War,
 Had quite defeated, and obtain'd a Name,
 The Warrior's Due, among the Sons of *Fame*.
 This, with his Wealth, and Pow'r, and ancient Line,
 From *Mars* deriv'd, *Pandion's* Thoughts incline
 His Daughter *Procne* with the Prince to join.

Nor *Hymen*, nor the *Graces* here preside,
 Nor *Juno* to befriend the blooming Bride ;
 But *Fieuds* with fun'ral Brands the Process led,
 And *Furies* waited at the *Genial* Bed :
 And all Night long the screeching Owl aloof,
 With baleful Notes, sat brooding o'er the Roof.

With

With such ill *Omens* was the Match begun,
 That made them Parents of a hopeful Son.
 Now *Thrace* congratulates their seeming Joy,
 And they, in thankful Rites, their Minds employ.
 If the fair Queen's Espousals pleas'd before,
Ilys, the new-born Prince, now pleases more;
 And each bright Day, the Birth, and bridal Feast,
 Were kept with hallow'd Pomp above the rest.
 So far true Happiness may lie conceal'd,
 When, by false Lights, they fancy 'tis reveal'd.

Now, since their Nuptials, had the golden Sun
 Five Courses round his ample Zodiac run;
 When gentle *Procne* thus her Lord address'd,
 And spoke the secret Wishes of her Breast:
 If I, she said, have ever Favour found,
 Let my Petition with Success be crown'd:
 Let me at *Athens* my dear Sister see,
 Or let her come to *Thrace*, and visit me.
 And, lest my Father should her Absence mourn,
 Promise that she shall make a quick Return.
 With Thanks I'd own the Obligation due
 Only, O *Tereus*, to the Gods, and you.

Now, ply'd with Oar and Sail, at his Command,
 The nimble Gallies reach'd th' *Athenian* Land,
 And anchor'd in the fam'd *Piræan* Bay,
 While *Tereus* to the Palace takes his Way;
 The King salutes, and Ceremonies past,
 Begins the fatal Embassy at last;
 The Occasion of his Voyage he declares,
 And, with his own, his Wife's Request prefers:

Asks Leave that, only for a little Space,
Their lovely Sister might embark for *Thrace*.

Thus while he spoke, appear'd the royal Maid,
Bright *Philomela*, splendidly array'd;
But most attractive in her charming Face,
And comely Person, turn'd with ev'ry Grace:
Like those fair *Nymphs*, that are describ'd to rove
Across the Glades, and Op'nings of the Grove;
Only that these are dress'd for sylvan Sports,
And less become the Finery of Courts.

Tereus beheld the Virgin, and admir'd,
And with the Coals of burning Lust was fir'd:
Like crackling Stubble, or the Summer Hay,
When forked Lightnings o'er the Meadows play.
Such Charms in any Breast might kindle Love,
But him the Heats of inbred Lewdness move;
To which, tho' *Thrace* is naturally prone,
Yet his is still superior, and his own.
Strait her Attendants he designs to buy,
And with large Bribes her Governess would try:
Herself with ample Gifts resolves to bend,
And his whole Kingdom in th' Attempt expend:
Or, snatch'd away by Force of Arms, to bear,
And justify the Rape with open War.
The boundless Passion boils within his Breast,
And his projecting Soul admits no Rest.

And now, impatient of the least Delay,
By pleading *Procne's* Cause he speeds his Way:
The Eloquence of Love his Tongue inspires,
And, in his Wife's, he speaks his own Desires;

Hence

Hence all his Importunities arise,
And Tears unmanly trickle from his Eyes.

Ye Gods! what thick involving Darkness blinds
The stupid Faculties of mortal Minds!
Tereus the Credit of Good-nature gains
From these his Crimes; so well the Villain feigns.
And, unsuspecting of his base Designs,
In the Request fair *Philomela* joins;
Her snowy Arms her aged Sire embrace,
And clasp his Neck with an endearing Grace:
Only to see her Sister she intreats,
A seeming Blessing, which a Curse compleats,
Tereus surveys her with a luscious Eye,
And in his Mind forestalls the blissful Joy:
Her circling Arms a Scene of Lust inspire,
And ev'ry Kiss foments the raging Fire.
Fondly he wishes for the Father's Place,
To feel, and to return the warm Embrace;
Since not the nearest Ties of filial Blood
Would damp his Flame, and force him to be good;

At length, for both their sakes, the King agrees;
And *Philomela*, on her bended Knees,
Thanks him for what her Fancy calls Success,
When cruel Fate intends her nothing less.

Now *Phæbus*, hast'ning to ambrosial Rest
His fiery Steeds drove sloping down the West:
The sculptur'd Gold with sparkling Wines was fill'd,
And, with rich Meats, each chearful Table smil'd.
Plenty and Mirth the royal Banquet close,
Then all retire to Sleep, and sweet Repose.

But the lewd Monarch, tho' withdrawn apart,
 Still feels Love's Poison rankling in his Heart:
 Her Face divine is stamp'd within his Breast,
 Fancy imagines, and improves the rest;
 And thus, kept waking by intense Desire,
 He nourishes his own prevailing Fire.

Next Day the good old King for *Tereus* sends,
 And to his Charge the Virgin recommends;
 His Hand with Tears th' indulgent Father press'd,
 Then spoke, and thus with Tenderness address'd.

Since the kind Instances of pious Love,
 Do all Pretence of Obstacle remove;
 Since *Procne's*, and her own, with your Request,
 O'er-rule the Fears of a paternal Breast;
 With you, dear Son, my Daughter I entrust,
 And by the Gods adjure you to be just;
 By Truth, and ev'ry consanguineal Tie,
 To watch, and guard her with a Father's Eye.
 And, since the least Delay will tedious prove,
 In keeping from my Sight the Child I love,
 With Speed return her, kindly to assuage
 The tedious Troubles of my ling'ring Age.
 And you, my *Philomel*, let it suffice,
 To know your Sister's banish'd from my Eyes;
 If any Sense of Duty sways your Mind,
 Let me from you the shortest Absence find.
 He wept; then kiss'd his Child; and while he speaks,
 The Tears fall gently down his aged Cheeks.
 Next, as a Pledge of Fealty, he demands,
 And, with a solemn Charge, conjoins their Hands;

Then

Then to his Daughter, and his Grandson sends,
And by their Mouth a Blessing recommends;
While, in a Voice with dire Forebodings broke,
Sobbing, and faint, the last Farewel was spoke.

Now *Philomela*, scarce receiv'd on Board;
And in the royal gilded Bark secur'd,
Beheld the Dashes of the bending Oar,
The ruffled Sea, and the receding Shore;
When strait (his Joy impatient of Disguise)
We've gain'd our Point, the rough *Barbarian* cries;
Now I possess the dear, the blissful Hour,
And ev'ry Wish subjected to my Pow'r.
Transports of Lust his vicious Thoughts employ,
And he forbears with Pain th' expected Joy.

His gloting Eyes incessantly survey'd
The Virgin Beauties of the lovely Maid:
As when the bold rapacious Bird of *Jove*
With crooked Talons stooping from above,
Has snatch'd, and carry'd to his lofty Nest
A captive Hare, with cruel Gripe oppress'd;
Secure, with fix'd, and unrelenting Eyes,
He sits, and views the helpless, trembling Prize.

Their Vessels now had made th' intended Land,
And all with Joy descend upon the Strand;
When the false Tyrant seiz'd the princely Maid,
And to a Lodge in distant Woods convey'd;
Pale, sinking, and distress'd with jealous Fears,
And asking for her Sister all in Tears.
The Letcher, for Enjoyment fully bent,
No longer now conceal'd his base Intent;

But with rude Haste the bloomy Girl deflower'd,
 Tender, defenceless, and with Ease o'erpower'd.
 Her piercing Accents to her Sire complain,
 And to her absent Sister, but in vain :
 In vain she importunes, with doleful Cries,
 Each unattentive Godhead of the Skies.
 She pants and trembles, like the bleating Prey,
 From some close-hunted Wolf just snatch'd away ;
 That still, with fearful Horror, looks around,
 And on its Flank regards the bleeding Wound.
 Or, as the tim'rous Dove, the Danger o'er,
 Beholds her shining Plumes besmear'd with Gore,
 And, tho' deliver'd from the Faulcon's Claw,
 Yet shivers, and retains a secret Awe.

But when her Mind a calm Reflection shar'd,
 And all her scatter'd Spirits were repair'd :
 Torn and disorder'd while her Tresses hung,
 Her livid Hands, like one that mourn'd, she wrung ;
 Then thus, with Grief o'erwhelm'd her languid Eyes,
 Savage, inhuman, cruel Wretch ! she cries ;
 Whom not a Parent's strict Commands could move,
 Tho' charg'd, and utter'd with the Tears of Love ;
 Nor Virgin Innocence, nor all that's due
 To the strong Contract of the nuptial Vow :
 Virtue, by this, in wild Confusion's laid,
 And I compell'd to wrong my Sister's Bed ;
 Whilst you, regardless of your Marriage Oath,
 With Stains of Incest have defil'd us both.
 Tho' I deserv'd some Punishment to find,
 This was, ye Gods ! too cruel, and unkind.

Yet,

Yet, Villain, to compleat your horrid Guilt,
 Stab here, and let my tainted Blood be spilt.
 Oh happy ! had it come, before I knew
 The curs'd Embrace of vile perfidious you ;
 Then my pale Ghost, pure from incestuous Love,
 Had wander'd spotless thro' th' *Elysian* Grove.
 But, if the Gods above have Pow'r to know,
 And judge those Actions that are done below ;
 Unless the dreaded Thunders of the Sky,
 Like me, subdu'd, and violated lie ;
 Still my Revenge shall take its proper Time,
 And suit the Baseness of your hellish Crime.
 Myself, abandon'd, and devoid of Shame,
 Thro' the wide World your Actions will proclaim ;
 Or tho' I'm prison'd in this lonely Den,
 Obscur'd, and bury'd from the Sight of Men,
 My mournful Voice the pitying Rocks shall move,
 And my Complainings echo thro' the Grove.
 Hear me, O Heav'n ! and if a God be there,
 Let him regard me, and accept my Pray'r.

Struck with these Words, the Tyrant's guilty Breast
 With Fear and Anguish was by Turns possess'd ;
 Now with Remorse his Conscience deeply stung,
 He drew the Faulchion that beside her hung,
 And first her tender Arms behind her bound,
 Then dragg'd her by the Hair along the Ground.
 The Princess willingly her Throat reclin'd,
 And view'd the Steel with a contented Mind ;
 But soon her Tongue the girding Pinchers strain,
 With Anguish soon she feels the piercing Pain :

Oh

Oh Father ! Father ! she would fain have spoke,
 But the sharp Torture her Intention broke ;
 In vain she tries, for now the Blade has cut
 Her Tongue sheer off, close to the trembling Root.
 The mangled Part still quiver'd on the Ground,
 Murmuring with a faint imperfect Sound :
 And, as a Serpent writhes his wounded Train,
 Uneasy, panting, and possess'd with Pain ;
 The Piece, while Life remain'd, still trembled fast,
 And to its Mistress pointed to the last.

Yet, after this so damn'd and black a Deed,
 Fame (which I scarce can credit) has agreed,
 That on her rifled Charms, still void of Shame,
 He frequently indulg'd his lustful Flame.
 At last he ventures to his *Procne's* Sight,
 Loaded with Guilt, and cloy'd with long Delight ;
 There, with feign'd Grief, and false, dissembled Sighs,
 Begins a formal Narrative of Lies ;
 Her Sister's Death he artfully declares,
 Then weeps, and raises Credit from his Tears.
 Her Vest, with Flow'rs of Gold embroider'd o'er,
 With Grief distress'd, the mournful Matron tore, }
 And a befitting Suit of gloomy Sable wore.
 With Cost, an honorary Tomb she rais'd,
 And thus th' imaginary Ghost appears'd.
 Deluded Queen ! the Fate of her you love,
 Nor Grief, nor Pity, but Revenge should move.

Thro' the twelve Signs had pass'd the circling Sun,
 And round the Compass of the *Zodiac* run ;
 What must unhappy *Philomela* do,
 For ever subject to her Keeper's View ?

Huge Walls of massy Stone the Lodge surround,
 From her own Mouth no Way of speaking's found.
 But all our Wants by Wit may be supply'd,
 And Art makes up, what Fortune has deny'd:
 With Skill exact a *Phrygian* Web she strung,
 Fix'd to a Loom that in her Chamber hung,
 Where in wrought Letters, upon White display'd,
 In purple Notes, her wretched Case betray'd:
 The Piece, when finish'd, secretly she gave
 Into the Charge of one poor menial Slave;
 And then, with Gestures, made him understand,
 It must be safe convey'd to *Procne's* Hand.
 The Slave, with Speed, the Queen's Apartment sought,
 And render'd up his Charge, unknowing what he
 brought.

But when the Cyphers, figur'd in each Fold,
 Her Sister's melancholy Story told,
 (Strange that she could!) with Silence she survey'd
 The tragick Piece, and without weeping read:
 In such tumultuous Haste her Passions sprung,
 They choak'd her Voice, and quite disarm'd her Tongue.
 No Room for female Tears; the *Furies* rise,
 Darting vindictive Glances from her Eyes;
 And, stung with Rage, she bounds from Place to Place,
 While stern Revenge sits low'ring in her Face.

Now the triennial Celebration came,
 Observ'd to *Bacchus* by each *Thracian* Dame;
 When, in the Privacies of Night retir'd,
 They act his Rites, with sacred Rapture fir'd:
 By Night, the tinkling Cymbals ring around,
 While the shrill Notes from *Rhodope* resound;

By Night, the Queen, disguised, forsakes the Court,
To mingle in the Festival Resort.

Leaves of the curling Vine her Temples shade,
And, with a circling Wreath, adorn her Head
Adown her Back the Stag's rough Spoils appear,
Light on her Shoulder leans a Cornel Spear.

Thus, in the Fury of the God conceal'd,
Procne her own mad headstrong Passion veil'd;
Now, with her Gang, to the thick Wood she flies,
And with religious Yellings fills the Skies;
The fatal Lodge, as 'twere by chance, she seeks,
And, thro' the bolted Doors, an Entrance breaks
From thence, her Sister snatching by the Hand,
Mask'd like the ranting *Bacchanalian* Band,
Within the Limits of the Court she drew,
Shading, with Ivy green, her outward Hue.
But *Philomeia*, conscious of the Place,
Felt new reviving Pangs of her Disgrace;
A shiv'ring Cold prevail'd in ev'ry Part,
And the chill'd Blood ran trembling to her Heart.

Soon as the Queen a fit Retirement found,
Stript of the Garlands that her Temples crown'd,
She strait unveil'd her blushing Sister's Face,
And fondly clasp'd her with a close Embrace:
But, in Confusion lost, th' unhappy Maid,
With Shame dejected, hung her drooping head,
As guilty of a Crime that stain'd her Sister's Bed.
That Speech that should her injur'd Virtue clear,
And make her spotless Innocence appear,
Is now no more; only her Hands, and Eyes
Appeal, in Signals, to the conscious Skies.

In *Procne*'s Breast the rising Passions boil,
 And burst in Anger at a mad Recoil ;
 Her Sister's ill-tim'd Grief, with Scorn, she blames,
 Then, in these furious Words her Rage proclaims.

Tears, unavailing, but defer our Time,
 The stabbing Sword must expiate the Crime ;
 Or worse, if wit, on bloody Vengeance bent,
 A Weapon more tormenting can invent.
 O Sister ! I've prepar'd my stubborn Heart,
 To act some hellish, and unheard-of Part ;
 Either the Palace to surround with Fire,
 And see the Villain in the Flames expire ;
 Or, with a Knife, dig out his cursed Eyes ;
 Or, his false Tongue with racking Engines seize ;
 Or, cut away the Part that injur'd you,
 And, thro' a thousand Wounds, his guilty Soul pursue.
 Tortures enough my Passion has design'd,
 But the Variety distracts my Mind.

A-while, thus wav'ring, stood the furious Dame,
 When *Itys* fondling to his Mother came ;
 From him the cruel fatal Hint she took,
 She view'd him with a stern remorseless Look ;
 Ah ! but too like thy wicked Sire, she said,
 Forming the direful Purpose in her Head.
 At this a sudden Grief her Voice suppress,
 While silent Passions struggle in her Breast.

Now, at her Lap arrived, the flatt'ring Boy
 Salutes his Parent with a smiling Joy :
 About her Neck his little Arms are thrown,
 And he accosts her in a prattling Tone.

Then

Then her tempestuous Anger was allay'd,
 And in its full Career her Vengeance stay'd ;
 While tender Thoughts, in spite of Passion, rise,
 And melting Tears disarm her threat'ning Eyes.
 But when she found the Mother's easy Heart,
 Too fondly swerving from th' intended Part,
 Her injur'd Sister's Face again she view'd :
 And, as by Turns surveying both she stood,
 While this fond Boy (she said) can thus express
 The moving Accents of his fond Address ;
 Why stands my Sister of her Tongue bereft,
 Forlorn, and sad, in speechless Silence left ?
 O *Procne*, see the Fortune of your House !
 Such is your Fate, when match'd to such a Spouse !
 Conjugal Duty, if observ'd to him,
 Would change from Virtue, and become a Crime ;
 For all Respect to *Tereus* must debase
 The noble Blood of great *Pandion's* Race.

Strait at these Words, with big Resentment fill'd,
 Furious her Look, she flew, and seiz'd her Child ;
 Like a fell Tigress of the savage Kind,
 That drags the tender Suckling of the Hind
 Thro' *India's* gloomy Groves, where *Ganges* laves
 The shady Scene, and rolls his streamy Waves.

Now to a close Apartment they were come,
 Far off retir'd within the spacious Dome ;
 When *Procne*, on revengeful Mischief bent,
 Home to his Heart a piercing Poniard sent.
Ilys, with rueful Cries, but all too late,
 Holds out his Hands, and deprecates his Fate ;

Still

Still at his Mother's Neck he fondly aims,
 And strives to melt her with endearing Names;
 Yet still the cruel Mother perseveres,
 Nor with Concern his bitter Anguish hears.
 This might suffice; but *Philomela* too
 Across his Throat a shining Cutlass drew.
 Then both, with Knives, dissect each quiv'ring Part,
 And carve the butcher'd Limbs with cruel Art;
 Which, whelm'd in boiling Cauldrons o'er the Fire,
 Or turn'd on Spits, in steamy Smoak aspire:
 While the long Entries, with their slipp'ry Floor,
 Run down in purple Streams of clotted Gore.

Ask'd by his Wife to this inhuman Feast,
Tereus unknowingly is made a Guest:
 Whilst she her Plot the better to disguise,
 Stiles it some unknown mystic Sacrifice;
 And such the Nature of the hallow'd Rite,
 The Wife her Husband only could invite, [Sight.]
 The Slaves must all withdraw, and be debarr'd the
Tereus, upon a Throne of antique State,
 Loftily rais'd, before the Banquet fate;
 And, Glutton like, luxuriously pleas'd,
 With his own Flesh his hungry Maw appeas'd.
 Nay, such a Blindness o'er his Senses falls,
 That he for *Ilys* to the Table calls.
 When *Procne*, now impatient to disclose
 The Joy that from her full Revenge arose,
 Cries out, in Transports of a cruel Mind,
 Within yourself your *Ilys* you may find.
 Still, at this puzzling Answer, with Surprise,
 Around the Room he sends his curious Eyes;

And,

And, as he still enquir'd, and call'd aloud,
 Fierce *Philomela*, all besmear'd with Blood,
 Her Hands with Murder stain'd, her spreading Hair
 Hanging dishevel'd with a ghastly Air,
 Stept forth, and flung full in the Tyrant's Face
 The Head of *Itys*, goary as it was :
 Nor ever long'd so much to use her Tongue,
 And with a just Reproach to vindicate her Wrong.

The *Ibracian* Monarch from the Table flings,
 While with his Cries the vaulted Parlour rings ;
 His Imprecations echo down to Hell,
 And rouze the snaky *Furies* from the *Stygian* Cell.
 One while he labours to disgorge his Breast,
 And free his Stomach from the-cursed Feast ;
 Then, weeping o'er his lamentable Doom,
 He stiles himself his Son's sepulchral Tomb.
 Now, with drawn Sabre, and impetuous Speed,
 In close Pursuit he drives *Pandion's* Breed ;
 Whose nimble Feet spring with so swift a Force
 Across the Fields, they seem to wing their Course.
 And now, on real Wings themselves they raise,
 And steer their airy Flight by diff'rent Ways ;
 One to the Woodland's shady Covert hies,
 Around the smoaky Roof the other flies ;
 Whose Feathers yet the Marks of Murder stain,
 Where stamp'd upon her Breast, the crimson Spots remain.
Tereus, through Grief, and Haste to be reveng'd,
 Shares the like Fate, and to a Bird is chang'd :
 Fix'd on his Head, the crested Plumes appear,
 Long is his Beak, and sharpen'd like a Spear ;

This

Thus arm'd, his Looks his inward Mind display,
And, to a Lapwing turn'd, he fans his Way.

Exceeding Trouble, for his Children's Fate,
Shorten'd *Pandion's* Days, and chang'd his Date;
Down to the Shades below, with Sorrow spent,
An early, unexpected Ghost he went.

BOREAS in Love.

Erechtheus next th' *Athenian* Sceptre sway'd,
Whose Rule the State with joint Consent obey'd;
So mix'd his Justice with his Valour flow'd,
His Reign one Scene of Princely Goodness shew'd.
Four hopeful Youths, as many Females bright,
Sprung from his Loins, and sooth'd him with Delight.

Two of these Sisters, of a lovelier Air,
Excell'd the rest, tho' all the rest were fair.
Procris, to *Cephalus* in Wedlock ty'd,
Bless'd the young Sylvan with a blooming Bride:
For *Orithyia* *Boreas* suffer'd Pain,
For the coy Maid su'd long, but su'd in vain.
Tereus his Neighbour, and his *Thracian* Blood,
Against the Match a main Objection stood;
Which made his Vows, and all his suppliant Love,
Empty as Air and ineffectual prove.

But when he found his soothing Flatt'ries fail,
Nor saw his soft Addresses could avail;
Blust'ring with Ire, he quickly has Recourse
To rougher Arts, and his own native Force.
'Tis well, he said; such Usage is my Due,
When thus disguis'd by foreign Ways I sue;

When

When my stern Airs, and Fierceness I disclaim,
 And sigh for Love, ridiculously tame;
 When soft Addresses foolishly I try,
 Nor my own stronger Remedies apply.
 By Force and Violence I chiefly live,
 By them the low'ring stormy Tempests drive;
 In foaming Billows raise the hoary Deep,
 Writhe knotted Oaks, and sandy Desarts sweep;
 Congeal the falling Flakes of fleecy Snow,
 And bruise, with ratling Hail, the Plains below.
 I, and my Brother-Winds, when join'd above,
 Thro' the waste Campaign of the Skies we rove,
 With such a boist'rous full Career engage,
 That Heav'n's whole Concave thunders at our Rage.
 While, struck from nitrous Clouds, fierce Lightnings play,
 Dart thro' the Storm, and gild the gloomy Day.
 Or when, in subterraneous Caverns pent,
 My Breath, again the hollow Earth, is bent,
 The quaking World above, and Ghosts below,
 My mighty Pow'r, by dear Experience, know,
 Tremble with Fear, and dread the fatal Blow. }
 This is the only Cure to be apply'd,
 Thus to *Erechtheus* I should be ally'd;
 And thus the scornful Virgin should be woo'd,
 Not by Intreaty, but by Force subdu'd.

Boreas, in Passion, spoke these huffing Things,
 And, as he spoke, he shook his dreadful Wings;
 At which, afar the shiv'ring Sea was fann'd,
 And the wide Surface of the distant Land:

His

His dusty Mantle o'er the Hills he drew,
And swept the lowly Vallies as he flew :
Then, with his yellow Wings, embrac'd the Maid,
And, wrapt in dusky Clouds, far off convey'd.
The sparkling Blaze of Love's prevailing Fire
Shone brighter as he flew, and flam'd the higher.
And now the God, possess'd of his Delight,
To Northern *Thrace* pursu'd his airy Flight,
Where the young ravish'd Nymph became his Bride,
And soon the luscious Sweets of Wedlock try'd.

Two lovely Twins, th' Effect of this Embrace,
Crown their soft Labours, and their Nuptials grace;
Who, like their Mother, beautiful, and fair,
Their Father's Strength, and feather'd Pinions share :
Yet these, at first, were wanting, as 'tis said,
And after, as they grew, their Shoulders spread.
Zethes and *Calais*, the pretty Twins,
Remain'd unfledg'd, while smooth their beardless Chins;
But when, in Time, the budding silver Down
Shaded their Face, and on their Cheeks was grown,
Two sprouting Wings upon their Shoulders sprung,
Like those in Birds, that veil the callow Young,
Then as their Age advanc'd, and they began
From greener Youth to ripen into Man,
With *Jason's Argonauts* they cross'd the Seas,
Embark'd in quest of the fam'd Golden Fleece;
There, with the rest, the first frail Vessel try'd,
And boldly ventur'd on the swelling Tide.

The End of the Sixth Book.

